



2002 HARVEY AWARD WINNER

- BEST AMERICAN EDITION OF FOREIGN MATERIAL
- BEST GRAPHIC ALBUM OF PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED MATERIAL

Rain. Poison. Explosives. Vengeance. It's a deadly combination that forms a volatile brew, as the final showdown between ronin assassin Ogami Itto and his nemesis Retsudo begins. While the torrential rains continue to pound Edo, Retsudo and his bloodthirsty Yagyu army rush along the banks of the swelling Hatcho River, racing to beat a load of explosives that's traveling down the other side, right into the hands of the vengeful samurai Ogami. Meanwhile, the cunning poisoner Abeno sees his chance to destroy both sides by flooding all of Edo! Forced to put their battle aside, Ogami and Retsudo fight side by side to save Edo from the floods, while Ogami's little son Diagoro wanders alone, fighting for his life and searching for his father. It's a deluge of evil, and it threatens to wash away all that stands in its path!

"Goseki Kojima's art treads a controlled line between kineticism and detail, while the writing is both epic and touching."

— Nicholas C. Goodchild
Comics International

Published for the first time in America in the Japanese format.



LONE
WOLF
AND
CUB

KAZUO
KOIKE
&
GOSEKI
KOJIMA

LONE WOLF AND CUB

子連水狼



子連水狼

Front cover artwork by
MATT WAGNER



VOLUME
22



DARK
HORSE
COMICS

VOLUME 22

HEAVEN
AND EARTH

By KAZUO KOIKE
& GOSEKI KOJIMA



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HEAVEN AND EARTH

By KAZUO KOIKE
& GOSEKI KOJIMA

子
連
れ
狼



VOLUME

22

A NOTE TO READERS

Lone Wolf and Cub is famous for its carefully researched re-creation of Edo-Period Japan. To preserve the flavor of the work, we have chosen to retain many Edo-Period terms that have no direct equivalents in English. Japanese is written in a mix of Chinese ideograms and a syllabic writing system, resulting in numerous synonyms. In the glossary, you may encounter words with multiple meanings. These are words written with Chinese ideograms that are pronounced the same but carry different meanings. A Japanese reader seeing the different ideograms would know instantly which meaning it is, but these synonyms can cause confusion when Japanese is spelled out in our alphabet. *O-yurushi o* (please forgive us)!

LONE WOLF AND CUB



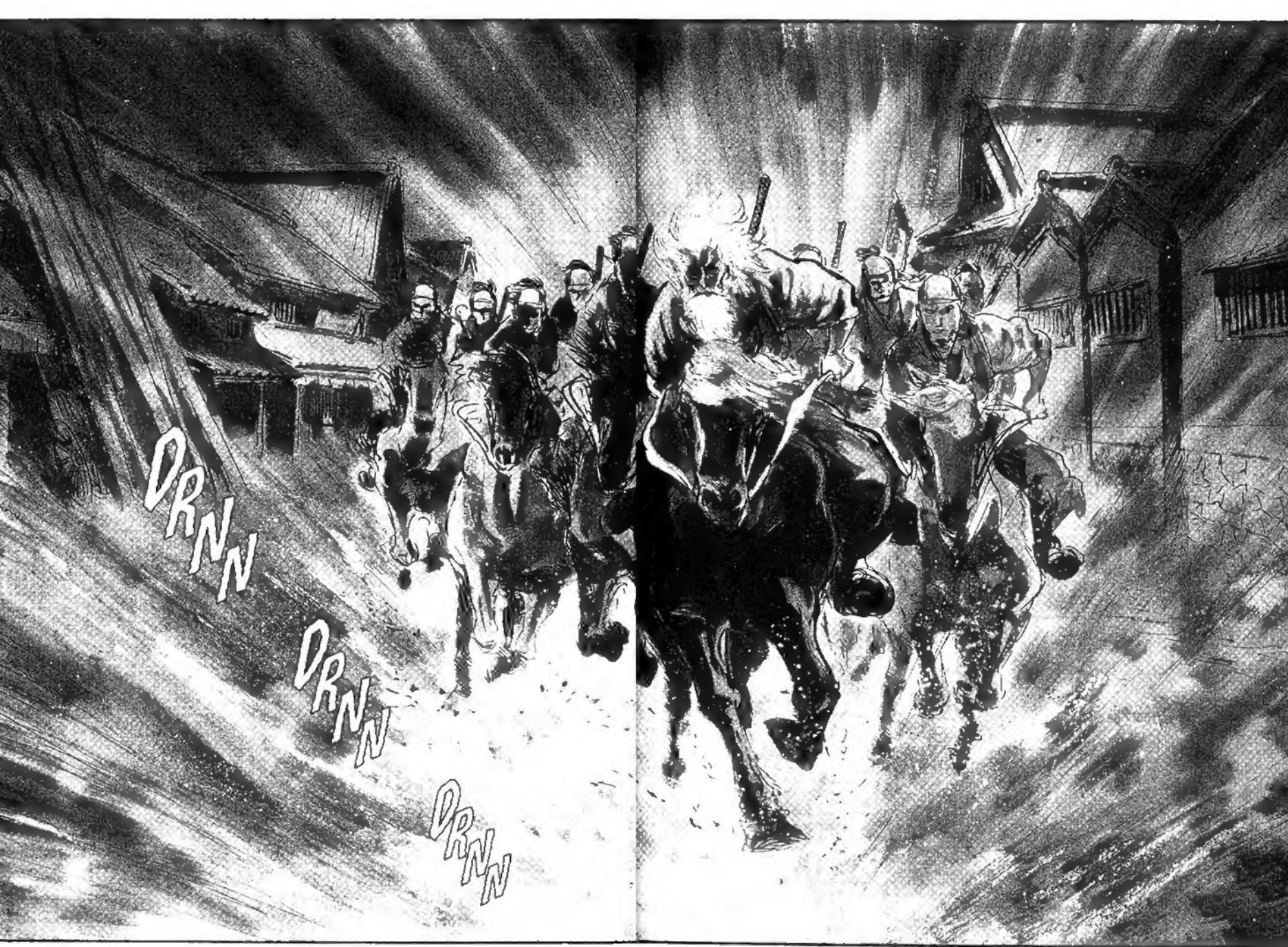
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*the hundred
and eighth*

The Last Fistful







THE BREACH
IN THE LEVEE
FORCED
RETSUDŌ'S
ARMY ON A
LONG DETOUR.



BUT IN THIS
DRIVING WIND
AND RAIN,
A DETOUR
RISKED NOT
ONLY MISSING
THE WINDOW
FOR VICTORY...



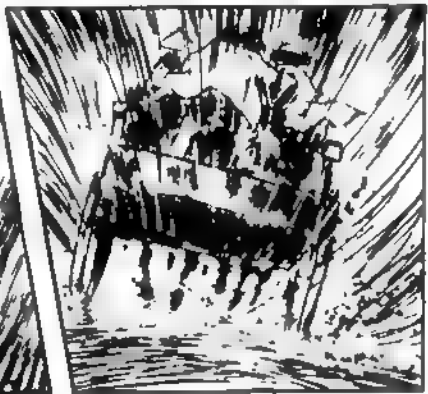
...IT COULD
ALSO EXHAUST
HIS TROOPS
BEFORE THEY
ENTERED BATTLE.
RETSUDŌ DECIDED
TO SWITCH
TO HORSEBACK.



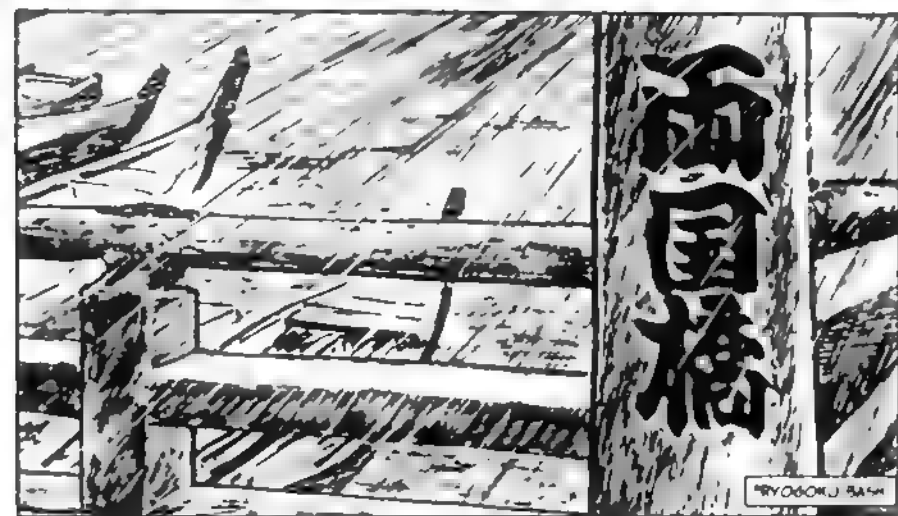
WAVE







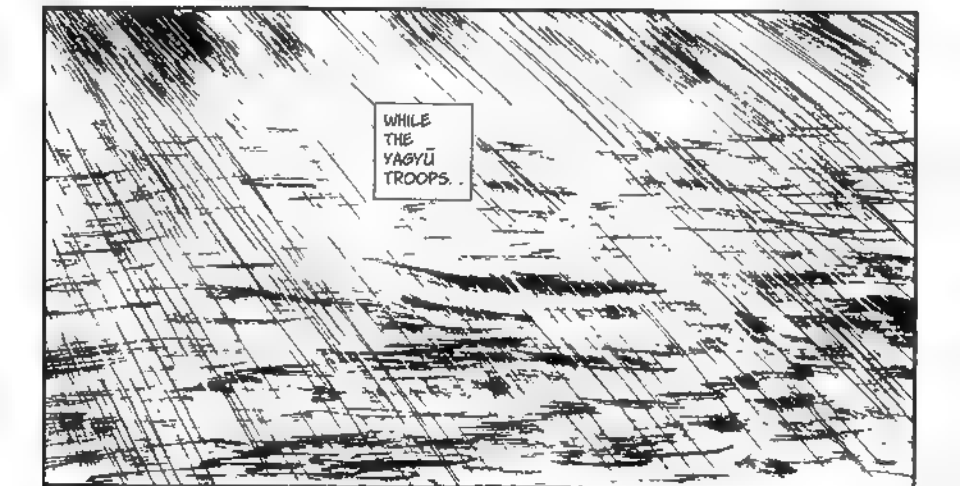




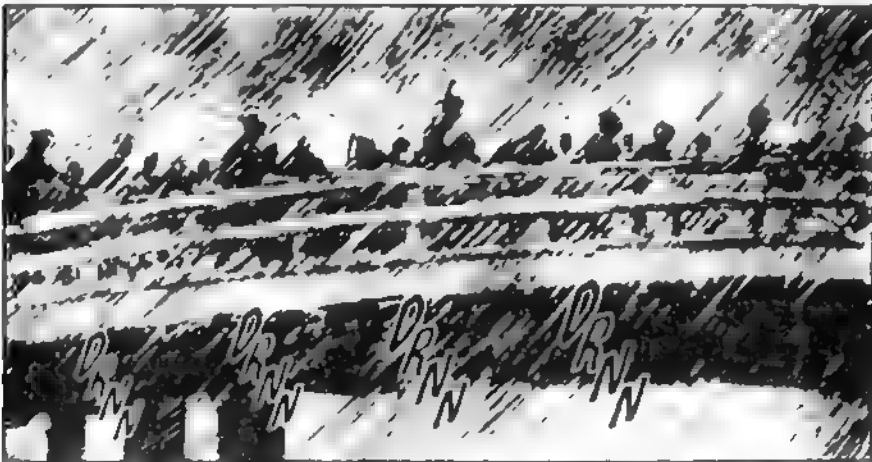
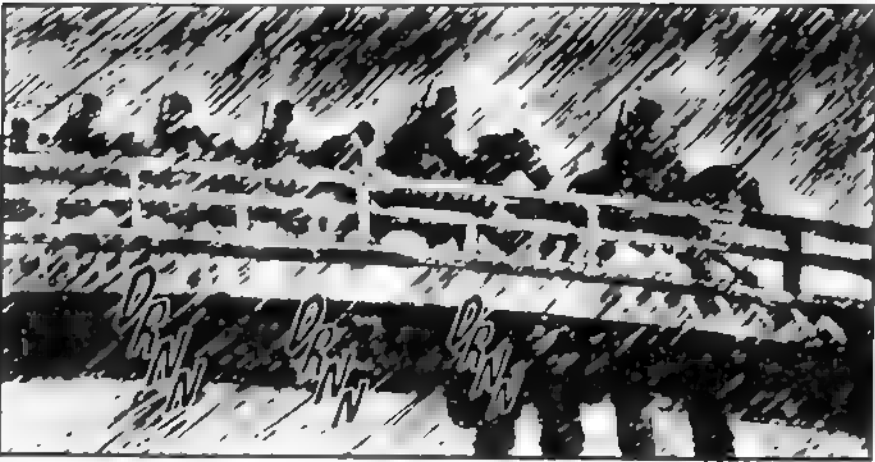




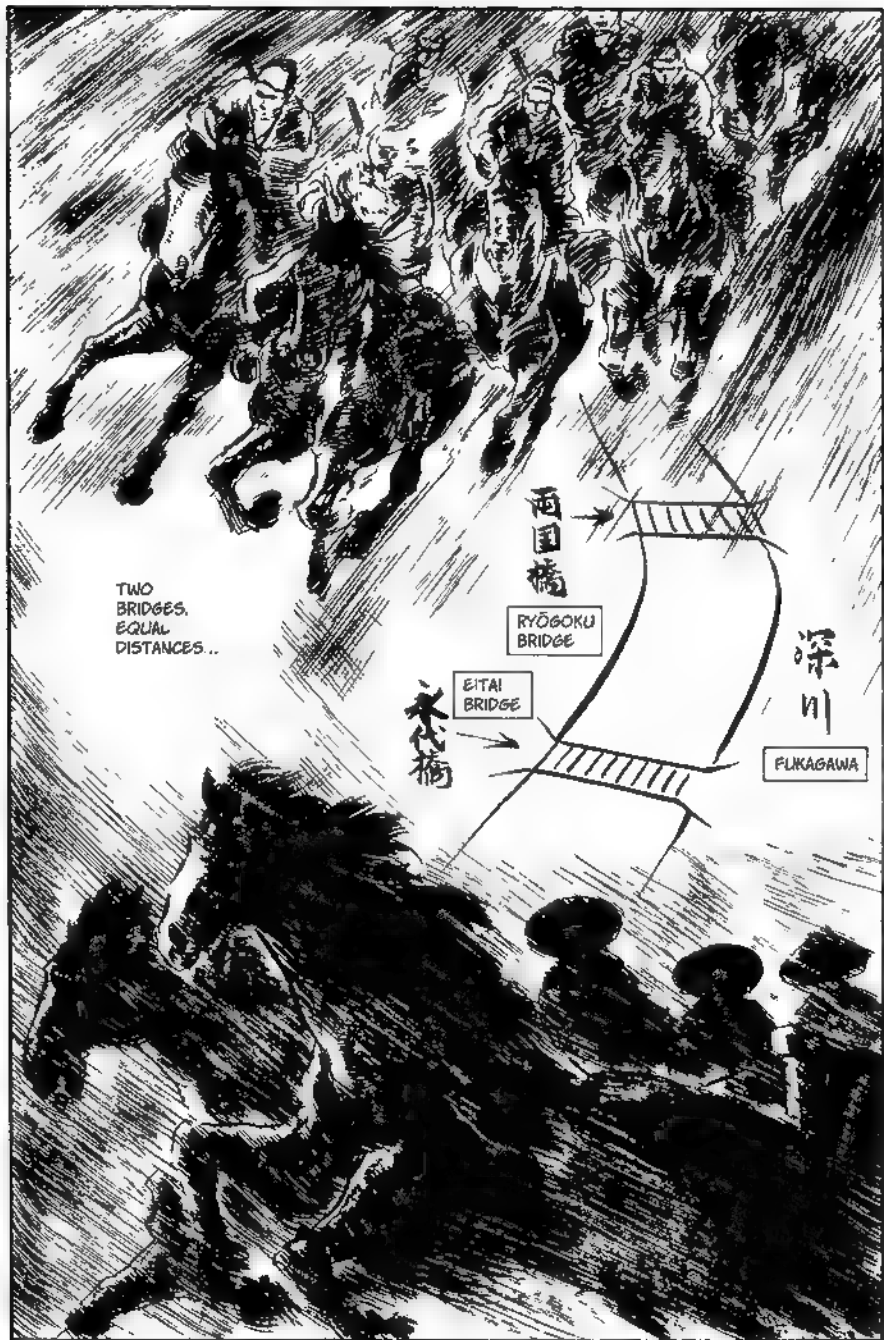
NAGASAKIYA
CROSSED THE
SUMIDA ON
RYOGOKU
BRIDGE.



WHILE
THE
YAGYU
TROOPS.







TWO
BRIDGES.
EQUAL
DISTANCES..

西国橋

RYŌGOKU
BRIDGE

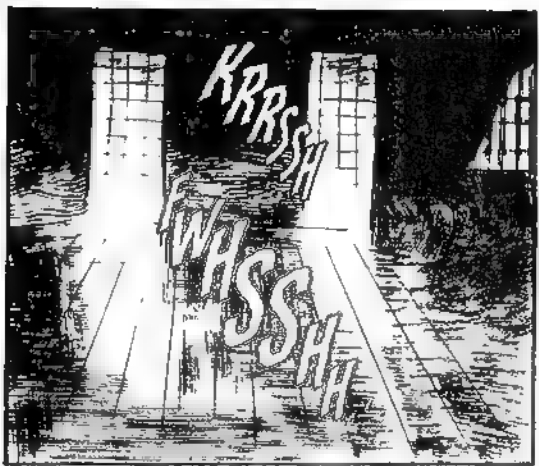
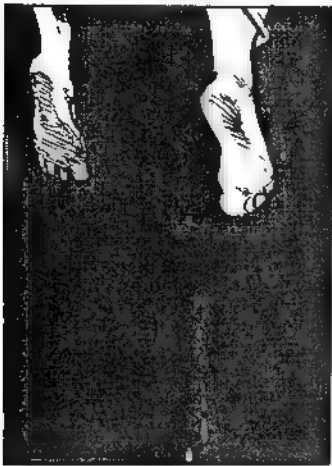
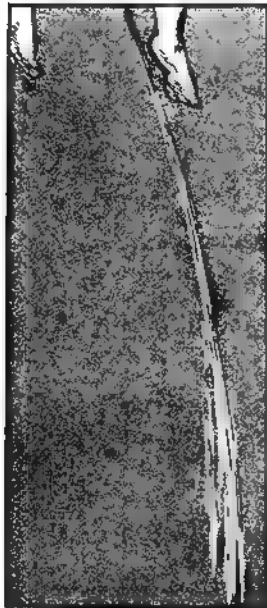
EITAI
BRIDGE

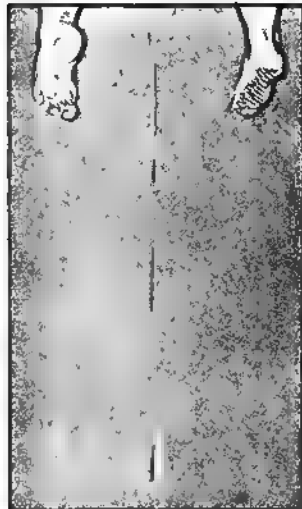
永代橋

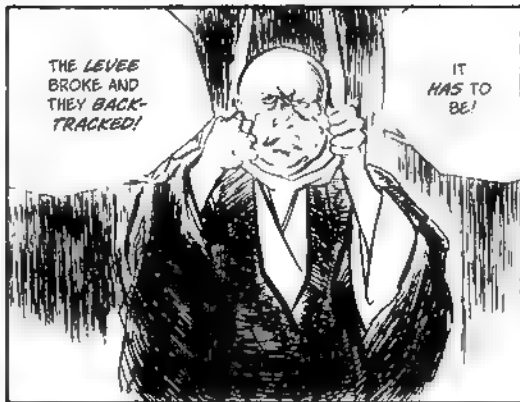
深川

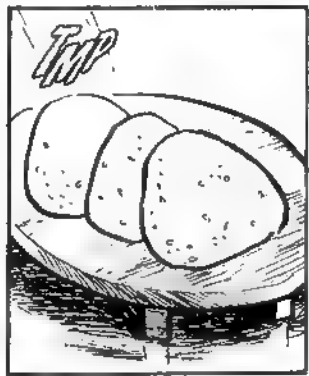
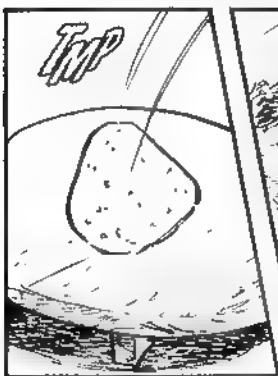
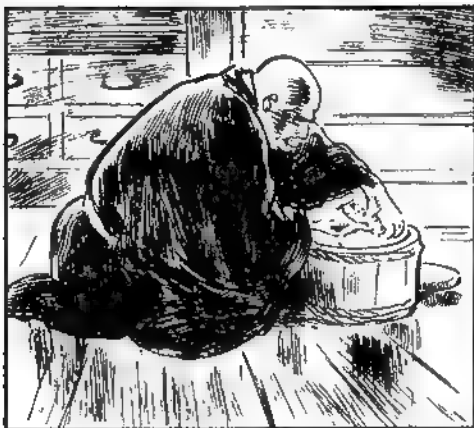
FUKAGAWA































HAN HAN HAN!
THE HANGED MAN
TREMBLES!



K-HOW
COULD YOU...
T-TELL...

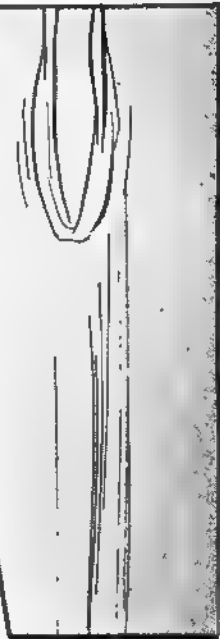
I...W-WAS
A-ALIVE...?!



FOOL!!











THINK!
THE THE
SHOGUN
TRUSTS
ME!

A KUCHIYAKU
CAN HELP YOU,
YABYU-SAMA...



JUST
P-PLEASE..
SPARE MY
LIFE!



WHERE'S
OGAMI
ITTÔ?

HE
JUST LEFT
HE SAID
HE'D WAIT
BY THE
NACHÔ



WHAT?!

HE
SAID HE'D
WAIT?!



Y-YES...
I'M CERTAIN.

HOW
DID HE
KNOW?

HOW DID HE
KNOW THE LAST
YAGYU WERE
FOLLOWING
HIM?!



YOU
TOLD
HIM?!

M-ME?!
NOT ME!
UH-UH! NOT
A WORD. !

HRM!











LONE WOLF
AND CLUB, TOO...
HE DIDN'T
KILL ME!

W-WHY?
I D-DON'T
UNDERSTAND..



SHIDŌ
IS TO
FIND YOUR
DEATH.

?!



UNDER-
STAND...?

I...I
DON'T!!



THEN I
CAN'T KILL
YOU.

NOW I
REALLY
DON'T!!



YOU
PRETEND TO
BE HANGED?
WHAT FOOLISH-
NESS!

IT MIGHT
WORK WITH
PEASANTS,
BUT NOT
SAMURAI!



NO BUSHI
WOULD FAKE
DEATH FOR MEN
READY TO DIE.
ONLY SCUM!



HOW MUCH
DEATH HAVE
I SEEN,
HAM?

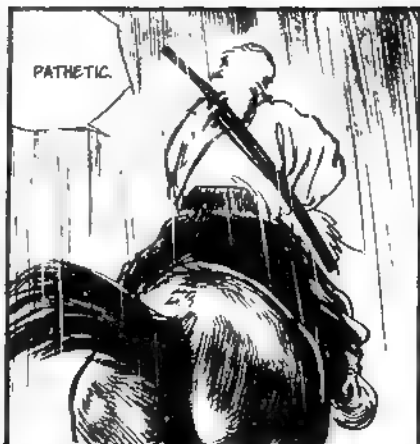
AS
SWORDSMAN,
AS SAMURAI, I'VE
SEEN ALL THE FACES
OF DEATH. YOU?
FOOL ME?

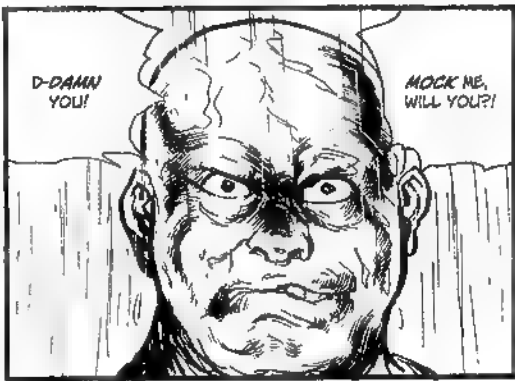


SAMURAI
SWORDS KILL
SAMURAI.



KILLING
SCUM SUCH
AS YOU WOULD
FOUL OUR BLADES.
OGAMI ITTÔ
THOUGHT THE
SAME.







I'M NOT
A BUSHI! NOT
ONE BIT! HEH HEH...
AND IT SAVED MY
LIFE! HEE HEE!

I'D RATHER
LIVE LIKE A WORM
THAN DIE LIKE A DAMN
BUSHI! BUSHI OR
WORM, WE ONLY
LIVE ONCE!



HEH
HEH
HEH...

HEH...
HKK...
HRK



OH...!
POOR ME!
HRK...SNFF...

NNG..
SNFF



STILL...
IT HURTS!
WHY IS LIFE SO...
PAINFUL!

WAAAA!
SNFF



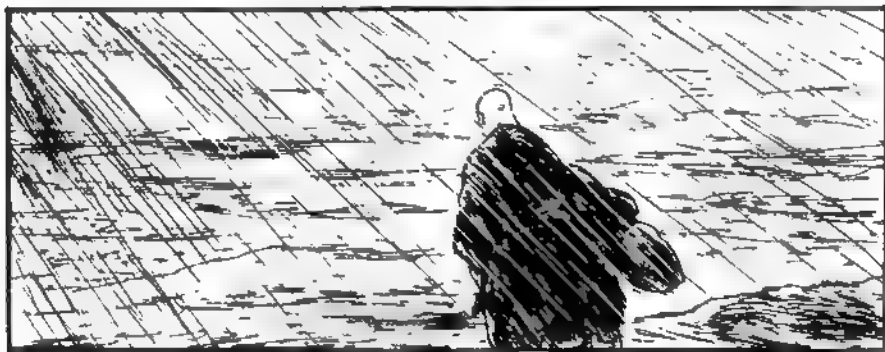
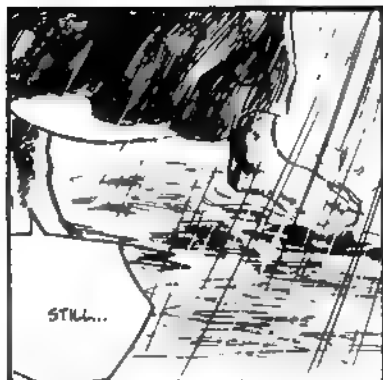
BRRR!
COLD!

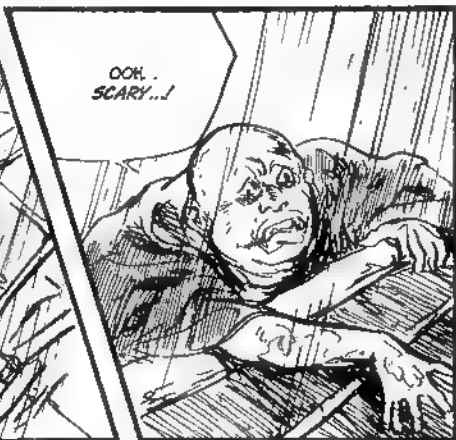
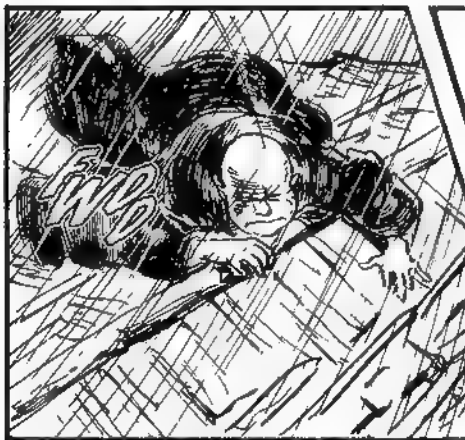


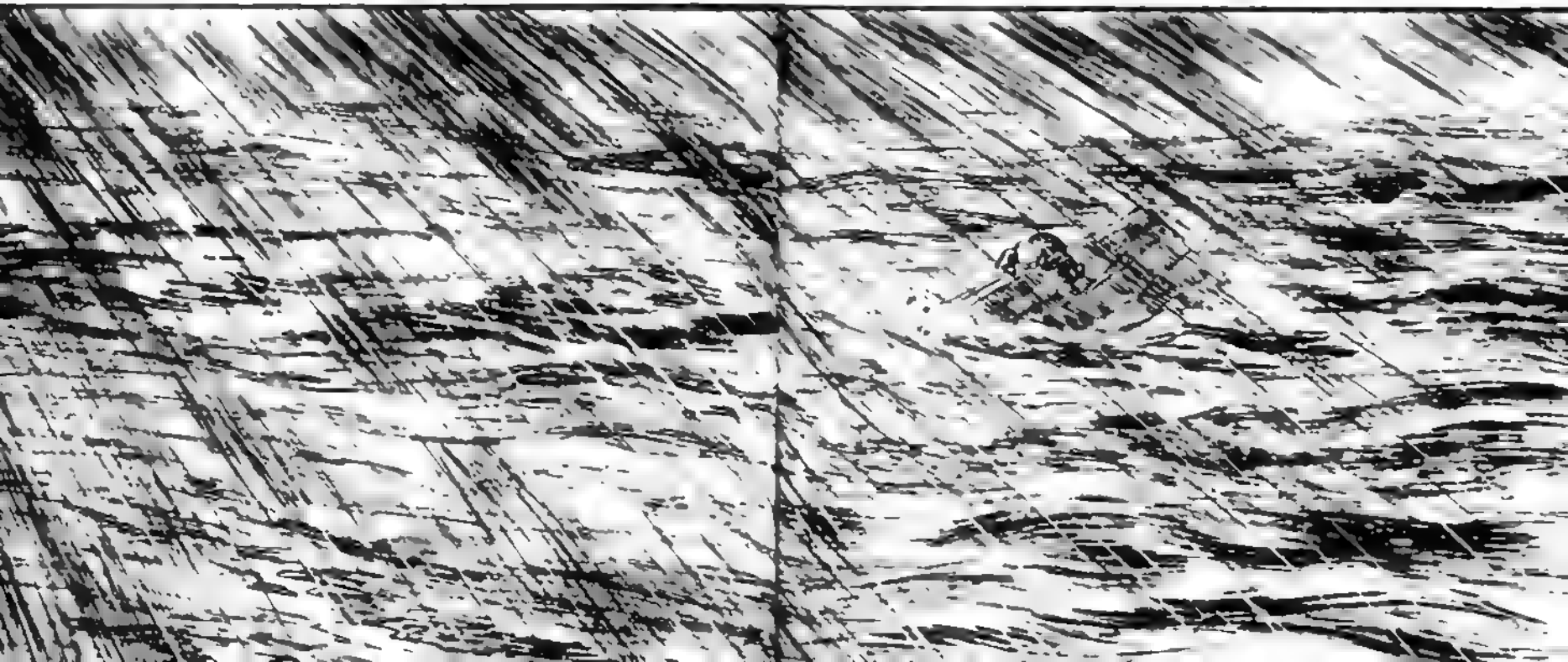
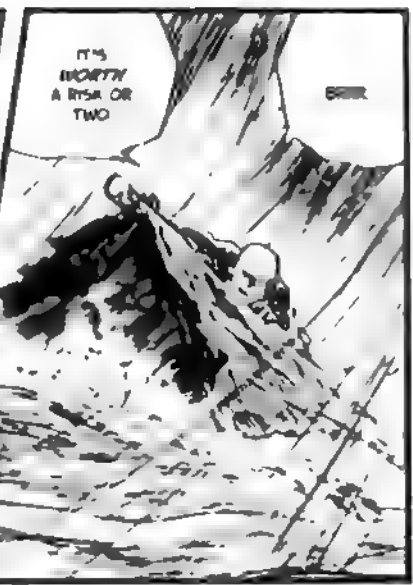
POOR
YAGYU! POOR
LONE WOLF,
FIGHTING IN
THIS FREEZING
MUCK.

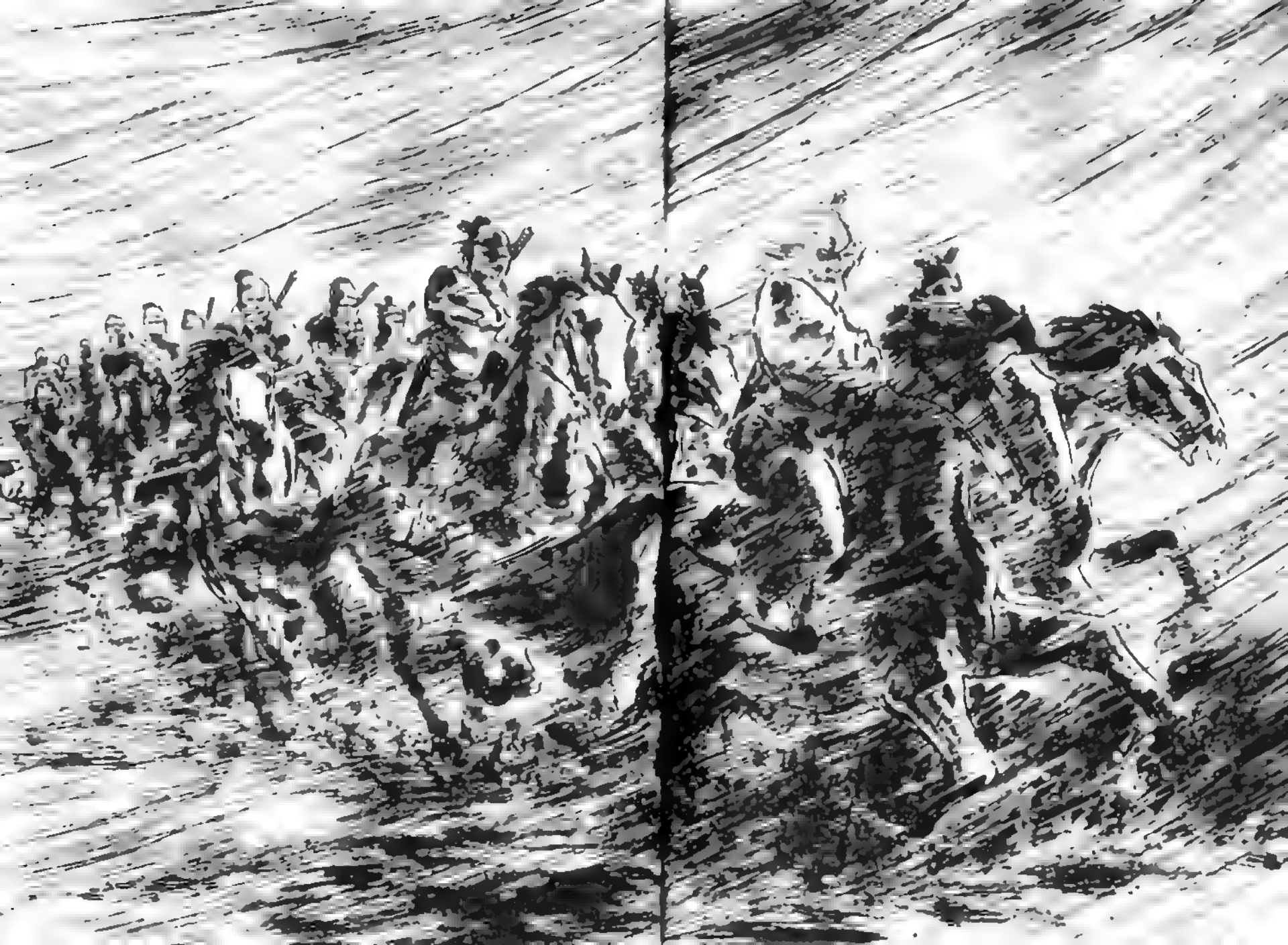
I DON'T CARE
IF THEY'RE BUSHI...
A COLD, RAINSWEEP
HACHOP HOW
AWFUL.













#MANGA PROJECT



Brought to you by:
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GAMBIT

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BECAUSE THE BOOK
IS ALWAYS BETTER.

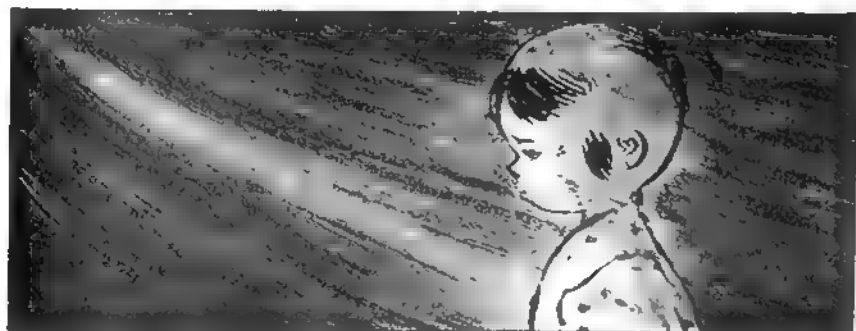
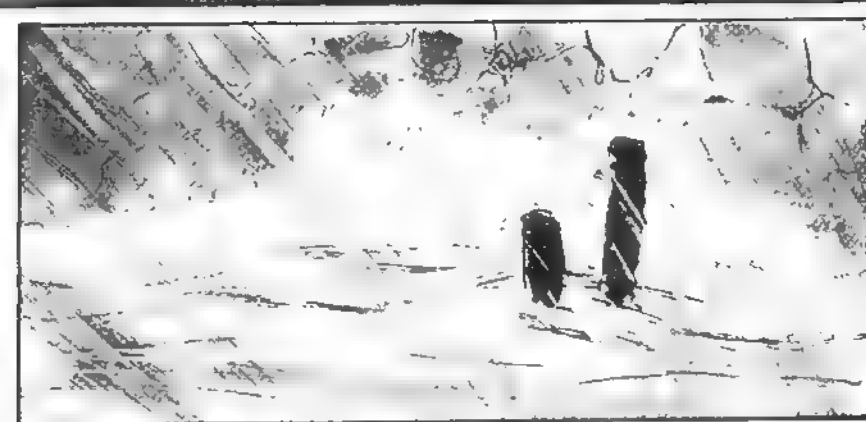


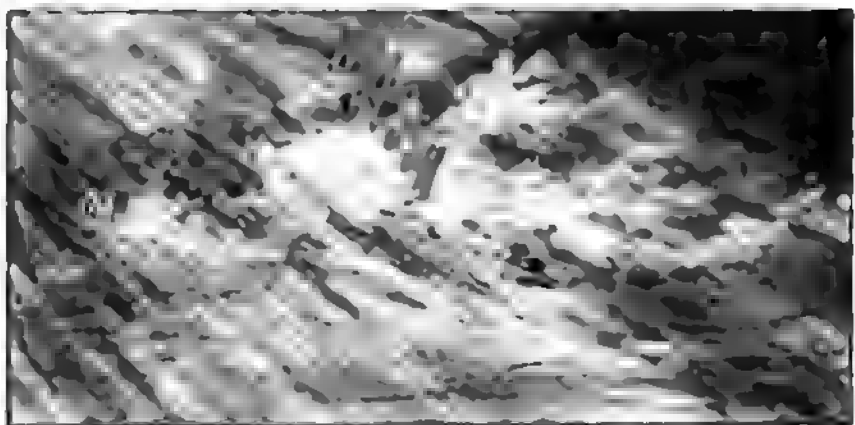
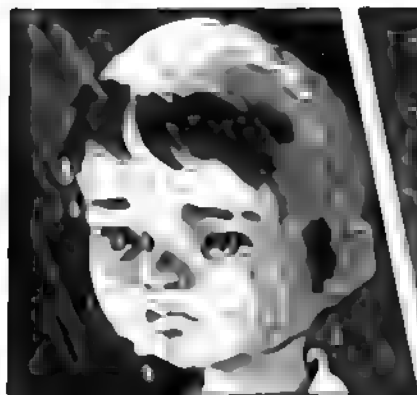
*the hundred
and ninth*

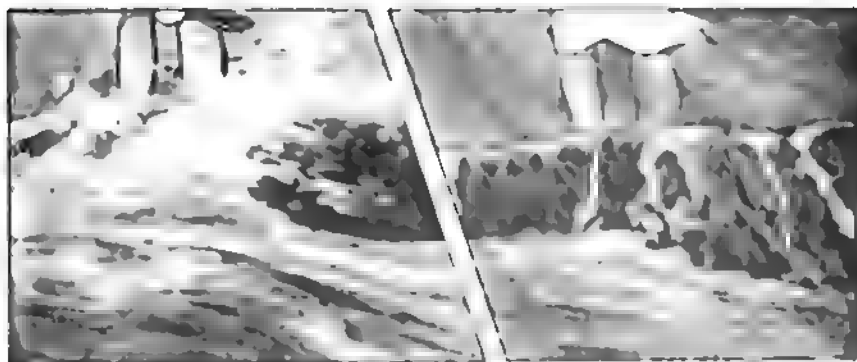
Tōteki



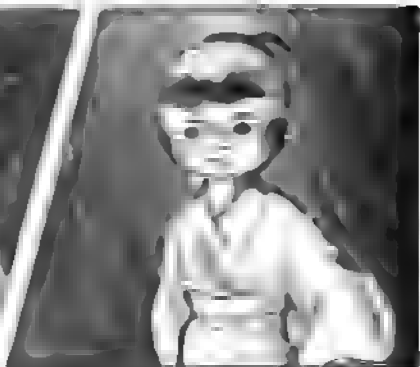
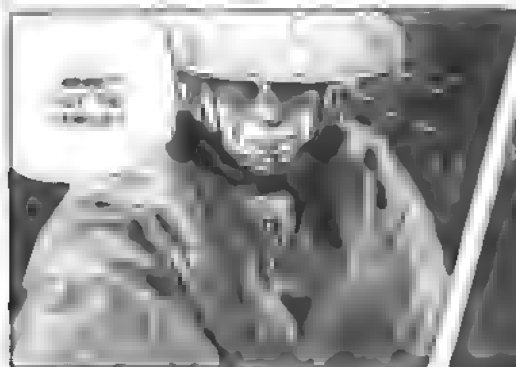
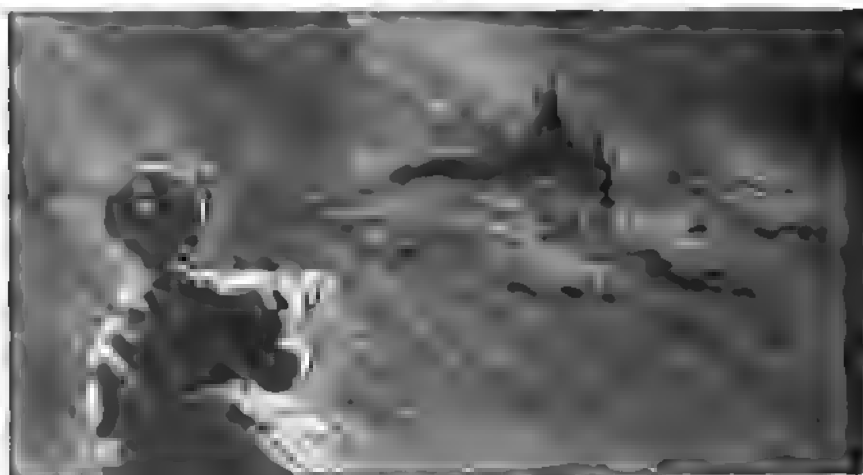
ARMANDO







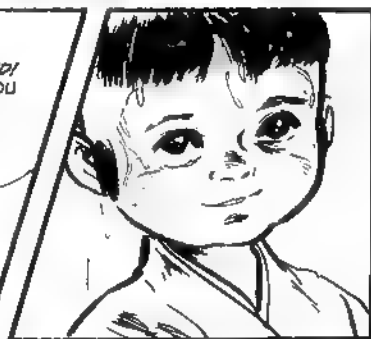








DRENCHED!
AREN'T YOU
COLD?



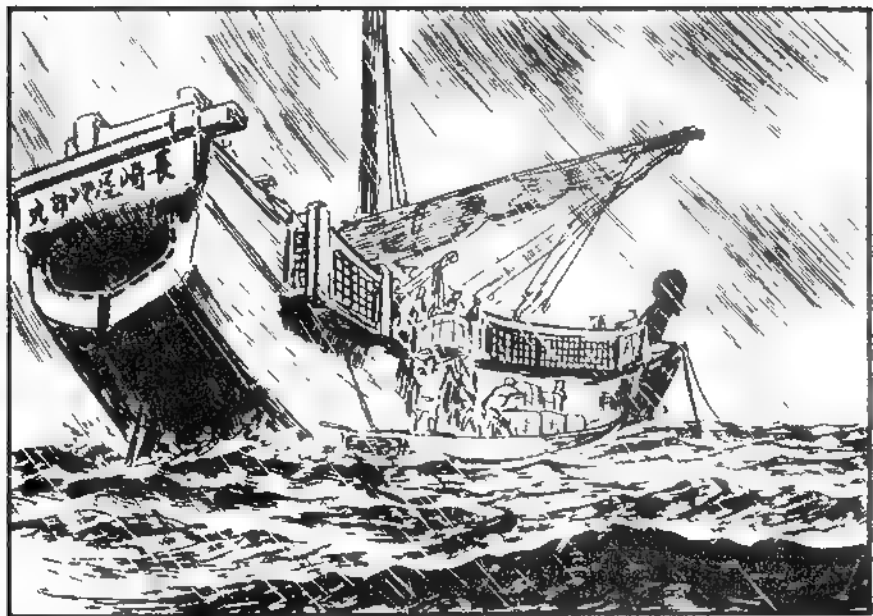
SO
BRAVE..

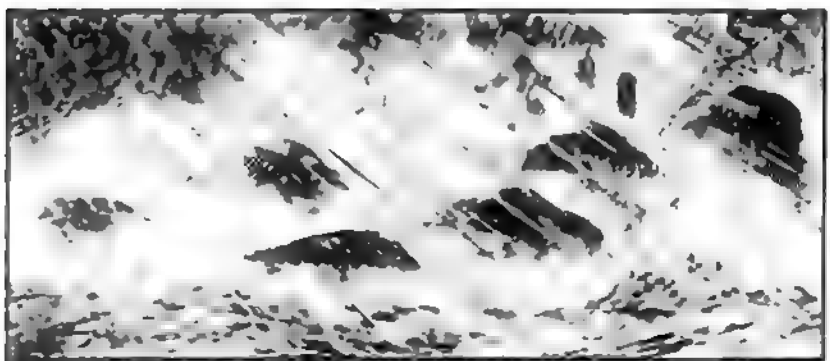
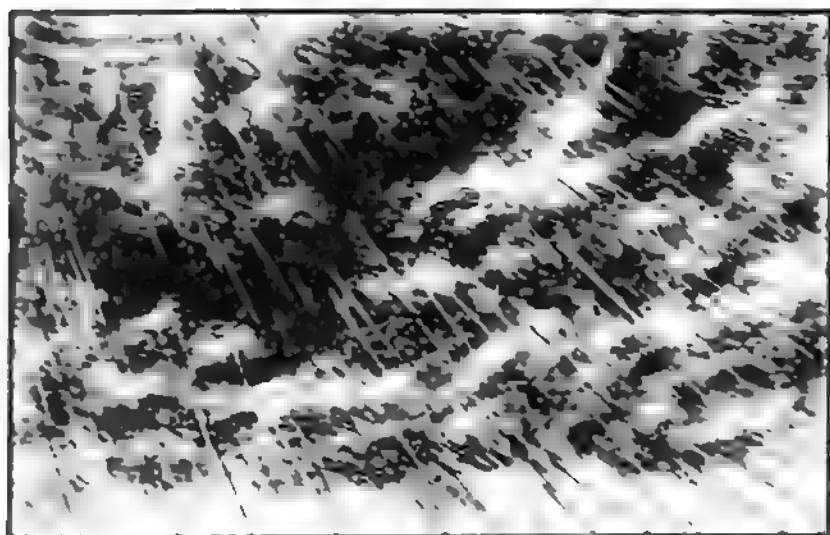




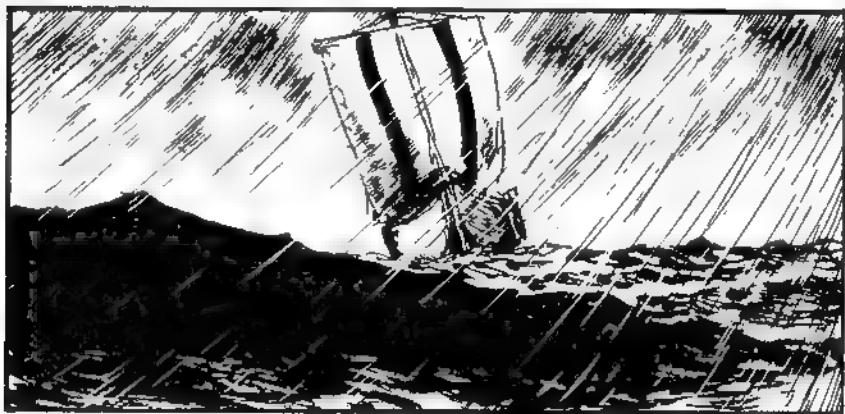
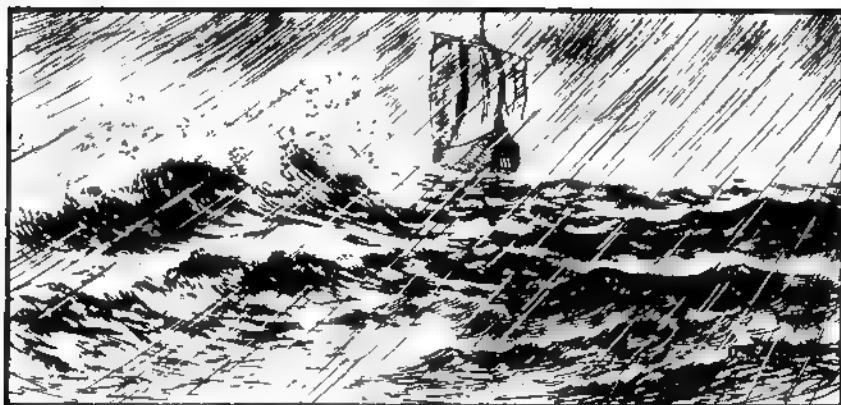


KII NORTHERN KYŪSHŪ
KUKI HARBOR





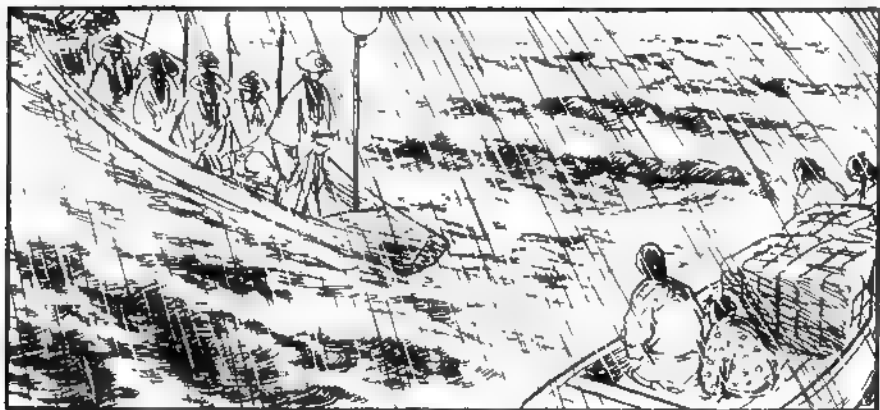














W-WELCOME
ABOARD.



ARE YOU
NAGASAKIYA
...?

I AM
SIR



ITAKURA
GENMOTSU, YOUR
NEW BUGYŌ, DON'T
FORGET IT

NAGASAKIYA
SHINSLIKE.











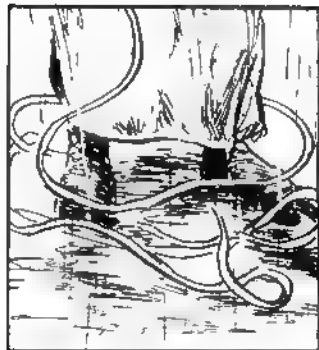






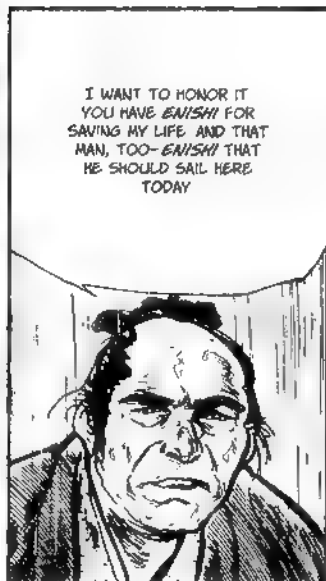








ENISHI! THE
BOND OF A LIFETIME!
IF YOU HADN'T BEEN HERE,
MY LIFE AND FORTUNE
WOULD BE LOST

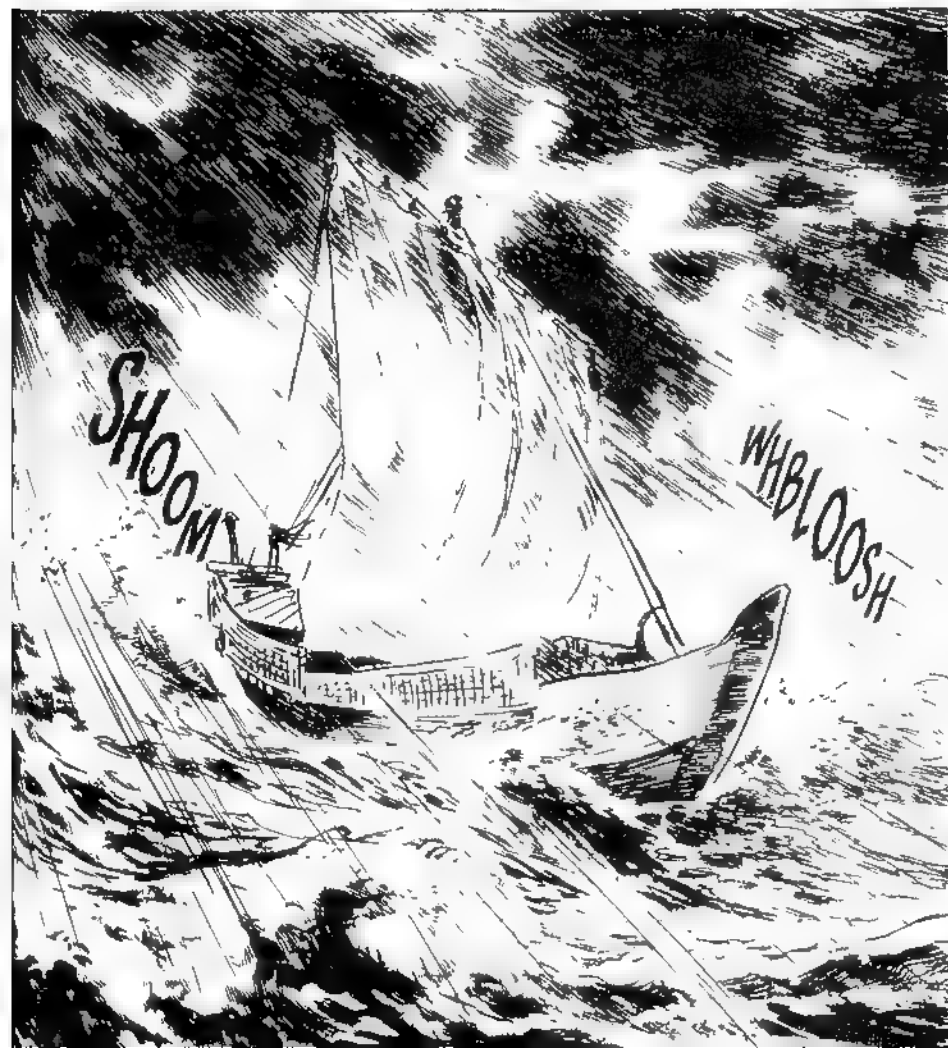
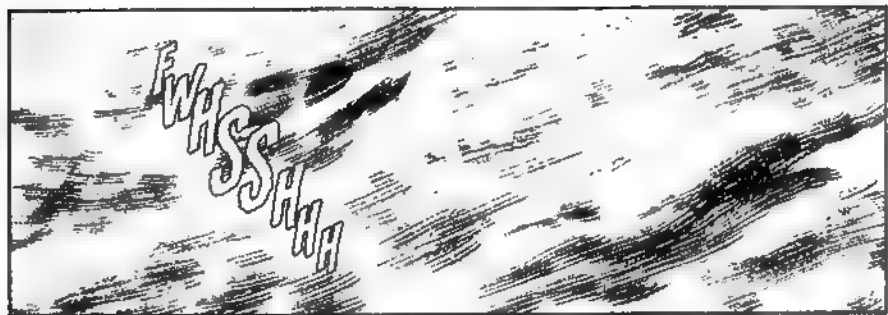


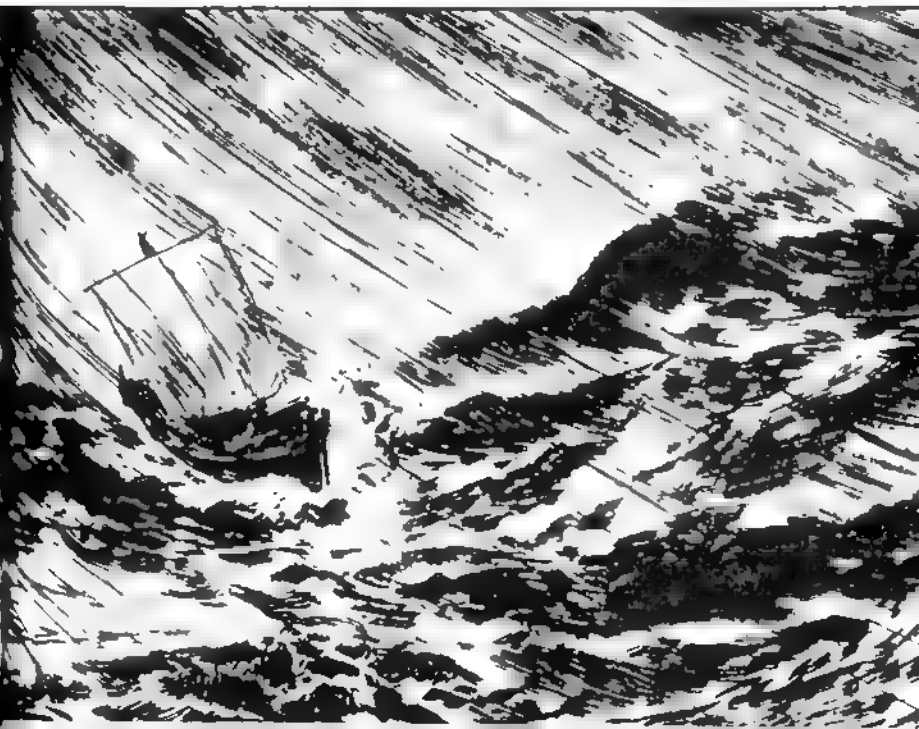
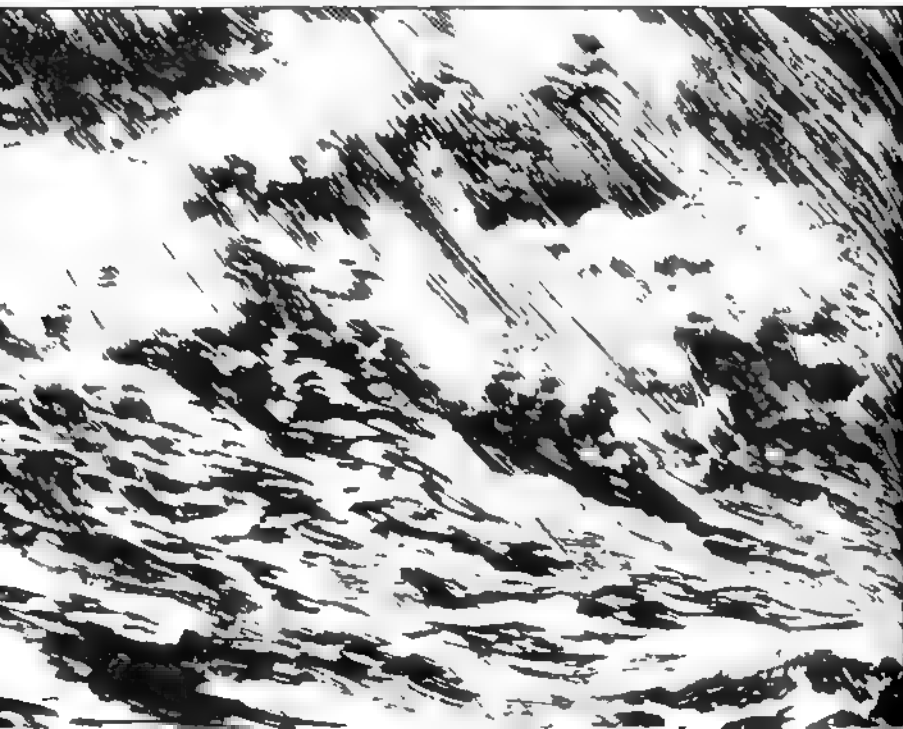
I WANT TO HONOR IT
YOU HAVE ENISHI FOR
SAVING MY LIFE AND THAT
MAN, TOO- ENISHI! THAT
HE SHOULD SAIL HERE
TODAY

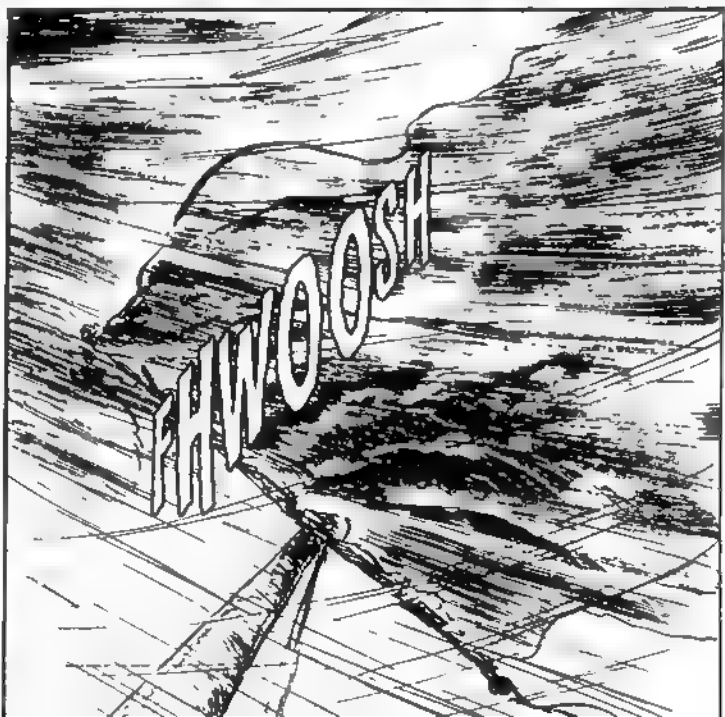
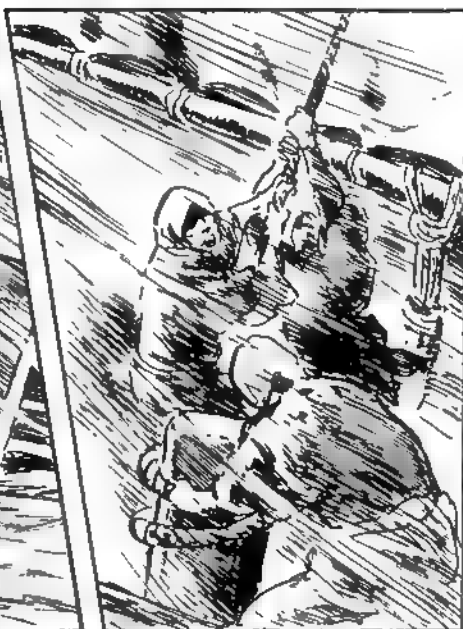


ENISHI.



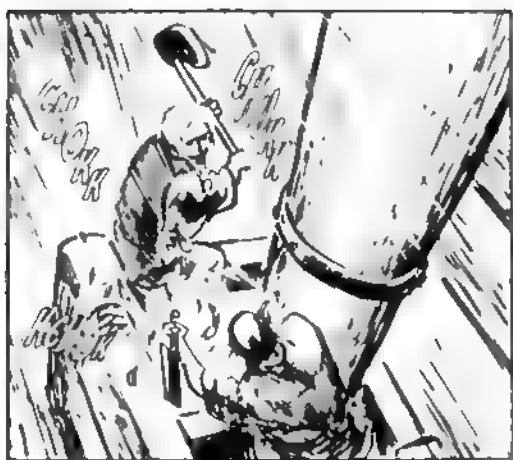






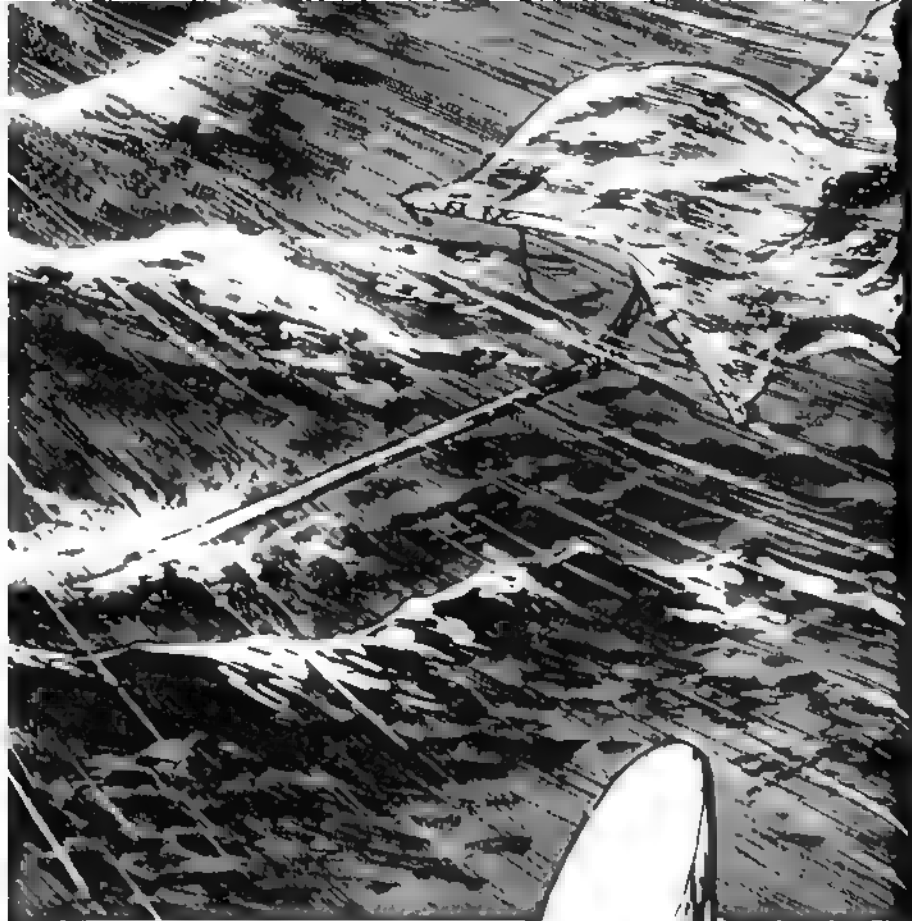








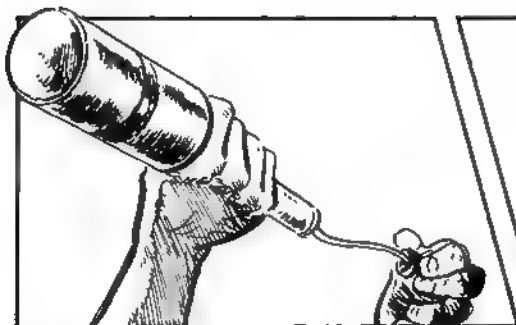


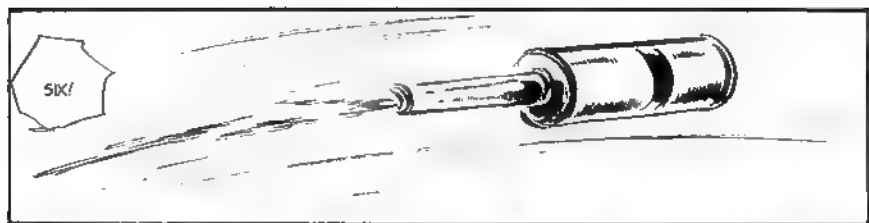


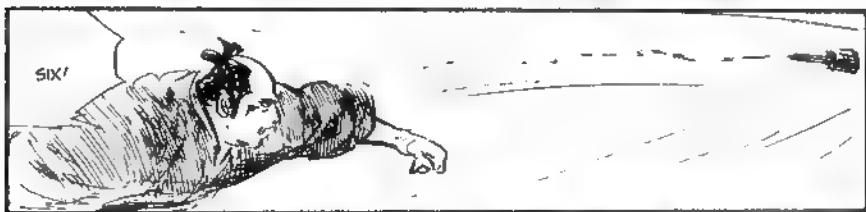




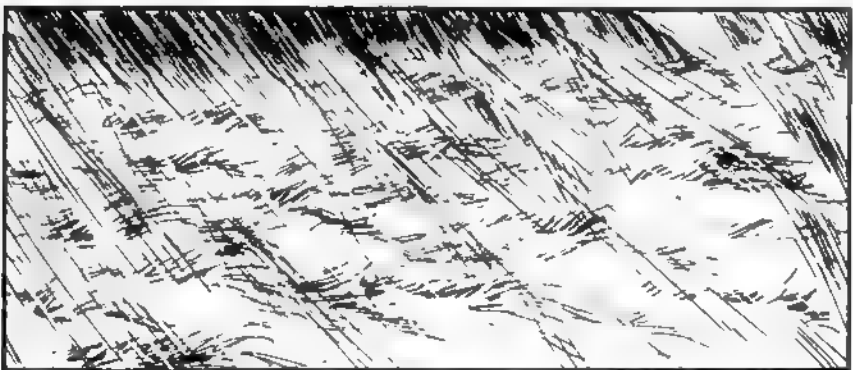






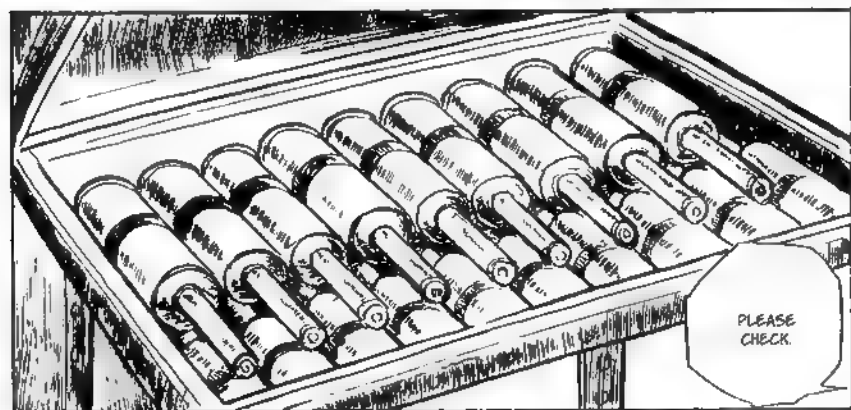
















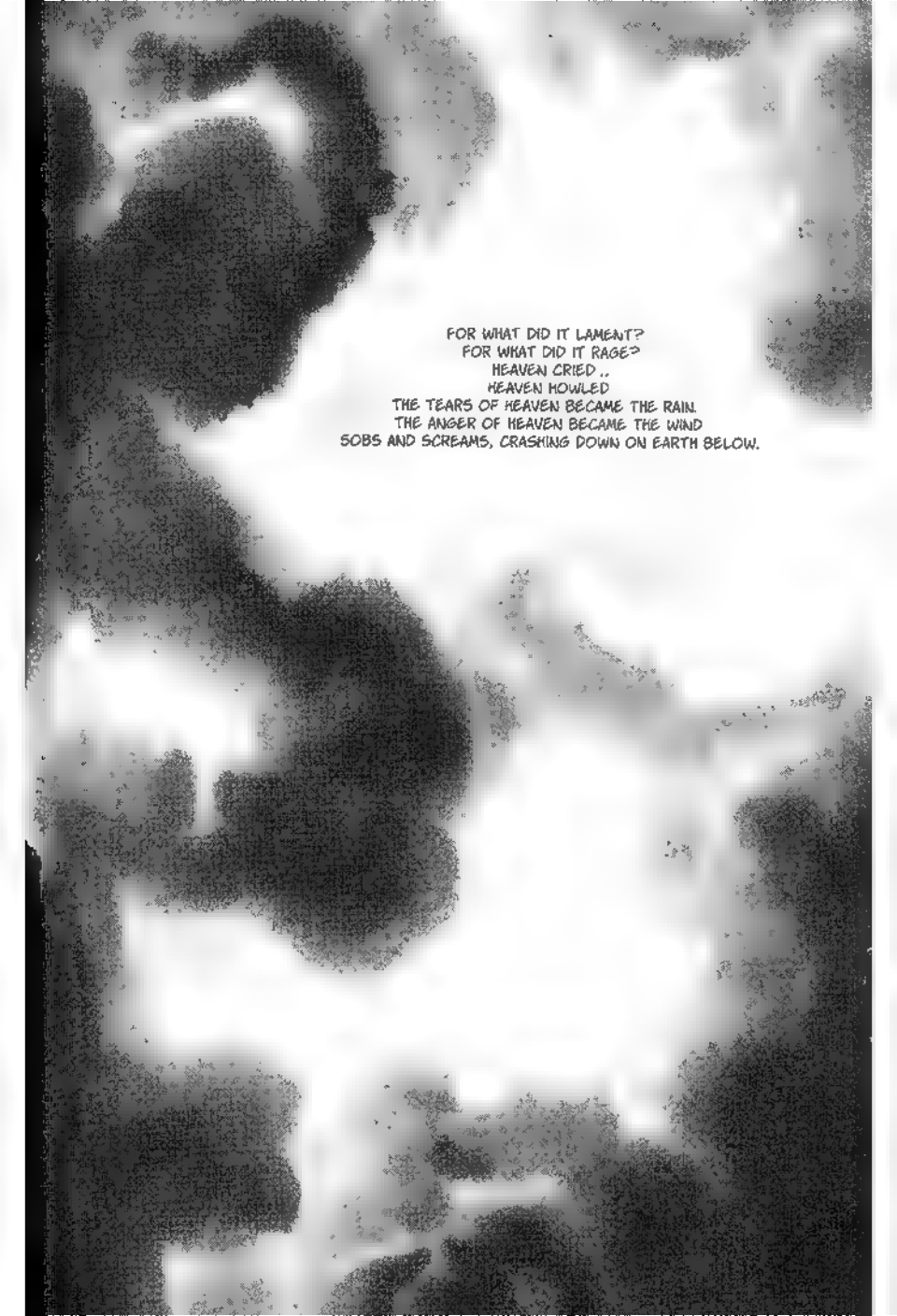
#MANGAPROJECT



*the hundred
and tenth*

Heaven and Earth





FOR WHAT DID IT LAMENT?
FOR WHAT DID IT RAGE?

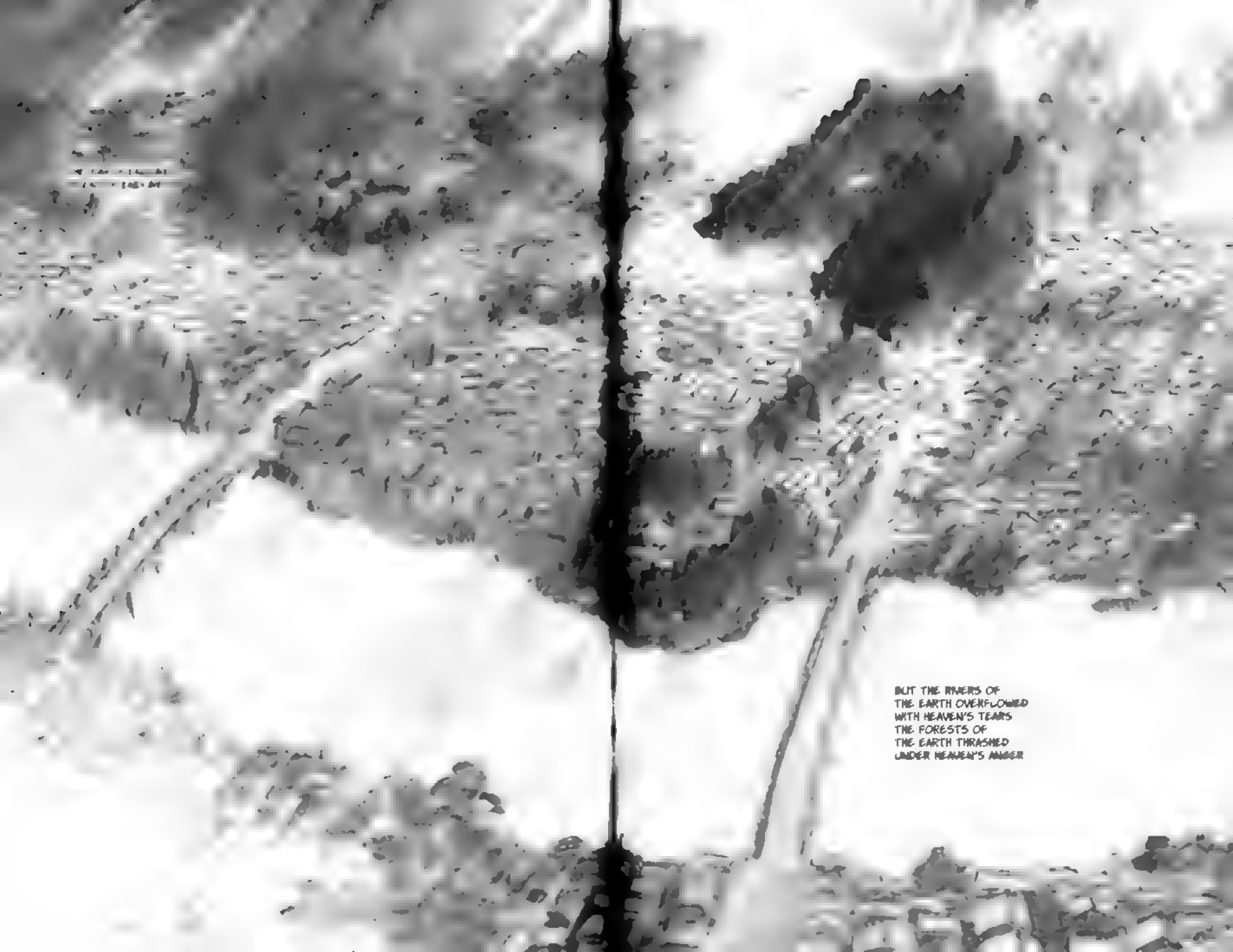
HEAVEN CRIED ..

HEAVEN HOWLED

THE TEARS OF HEAVEN BECAME THE RAIN.

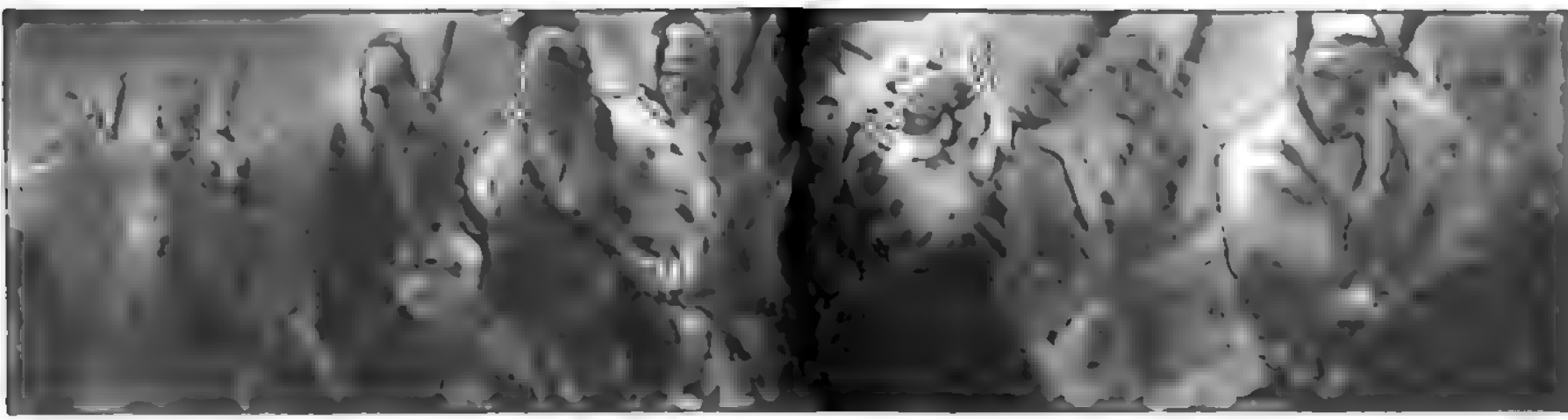
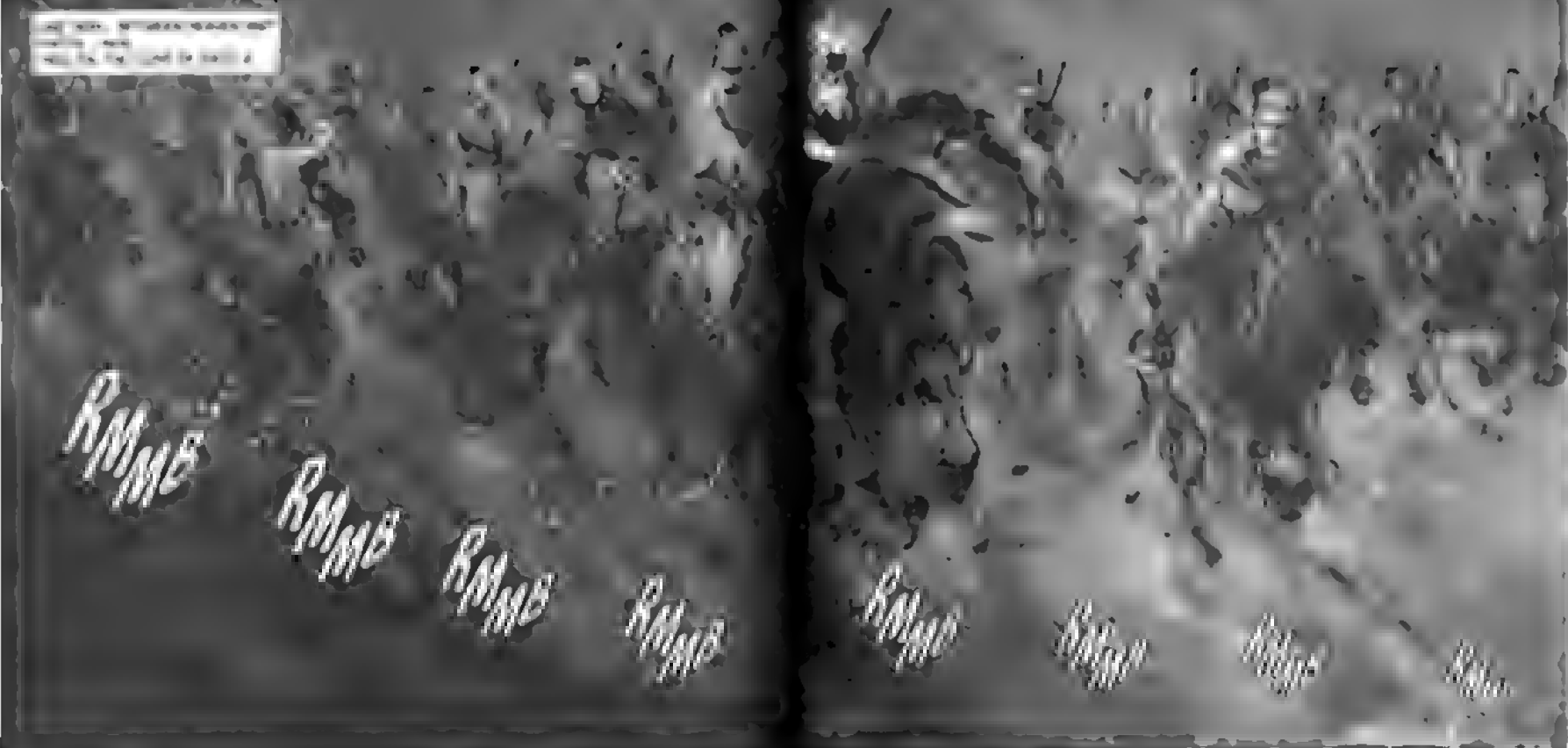
THE ANGER OF HEAVEN BECAME THE WIND

SOBS AND SCREAMS, CRASHING DOWN ON EARTH BELOW.

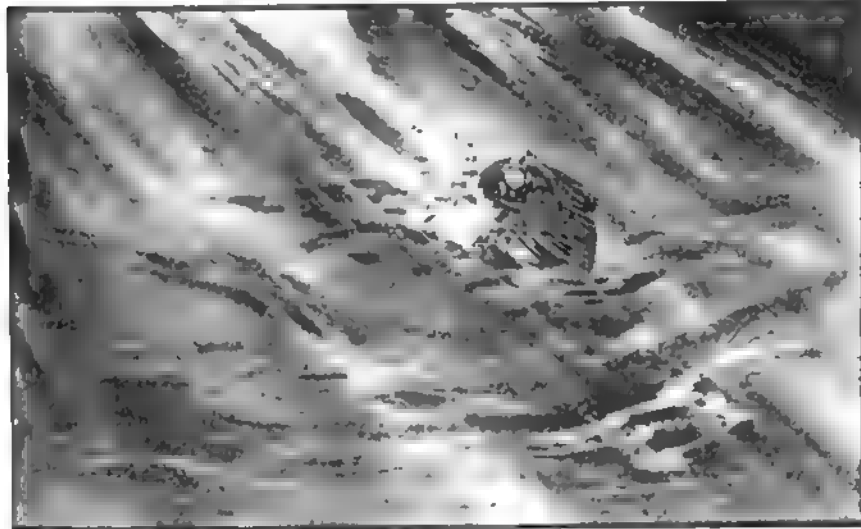
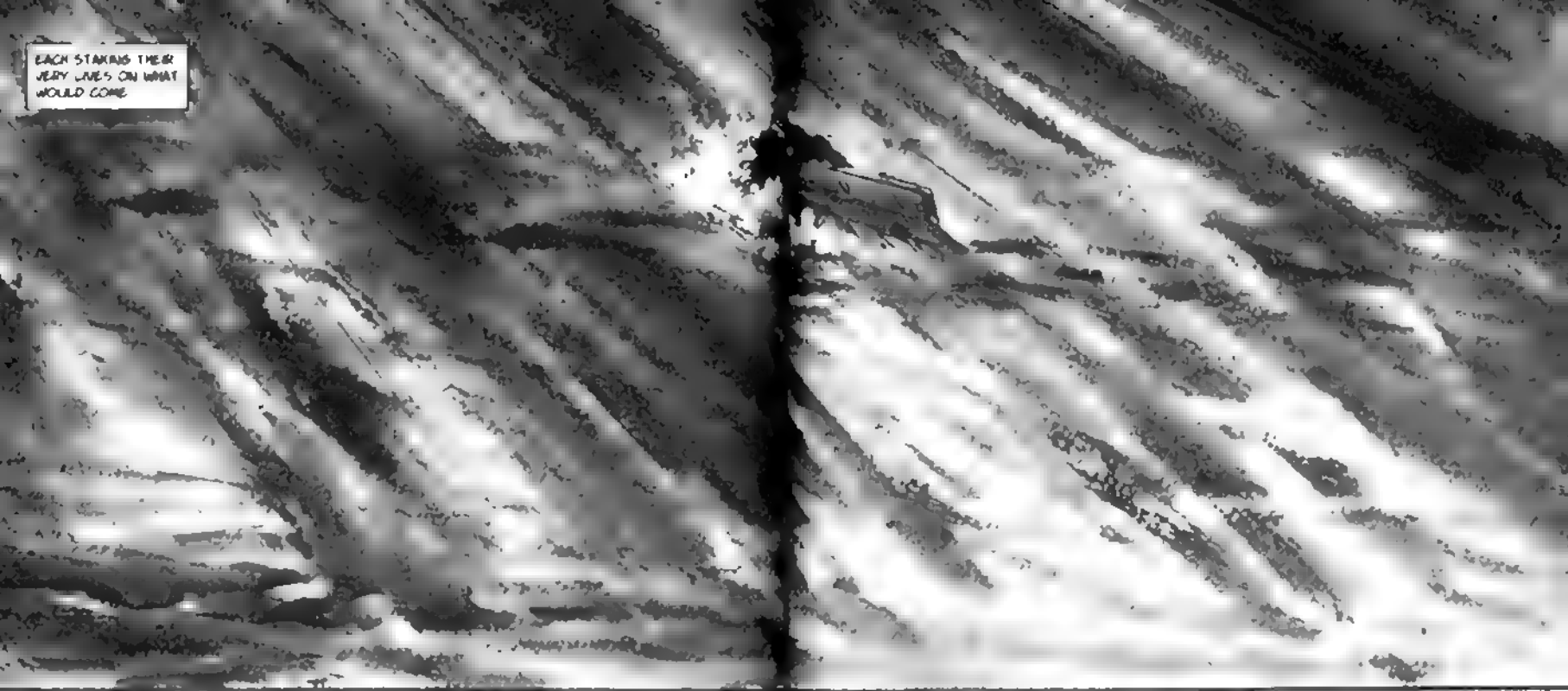


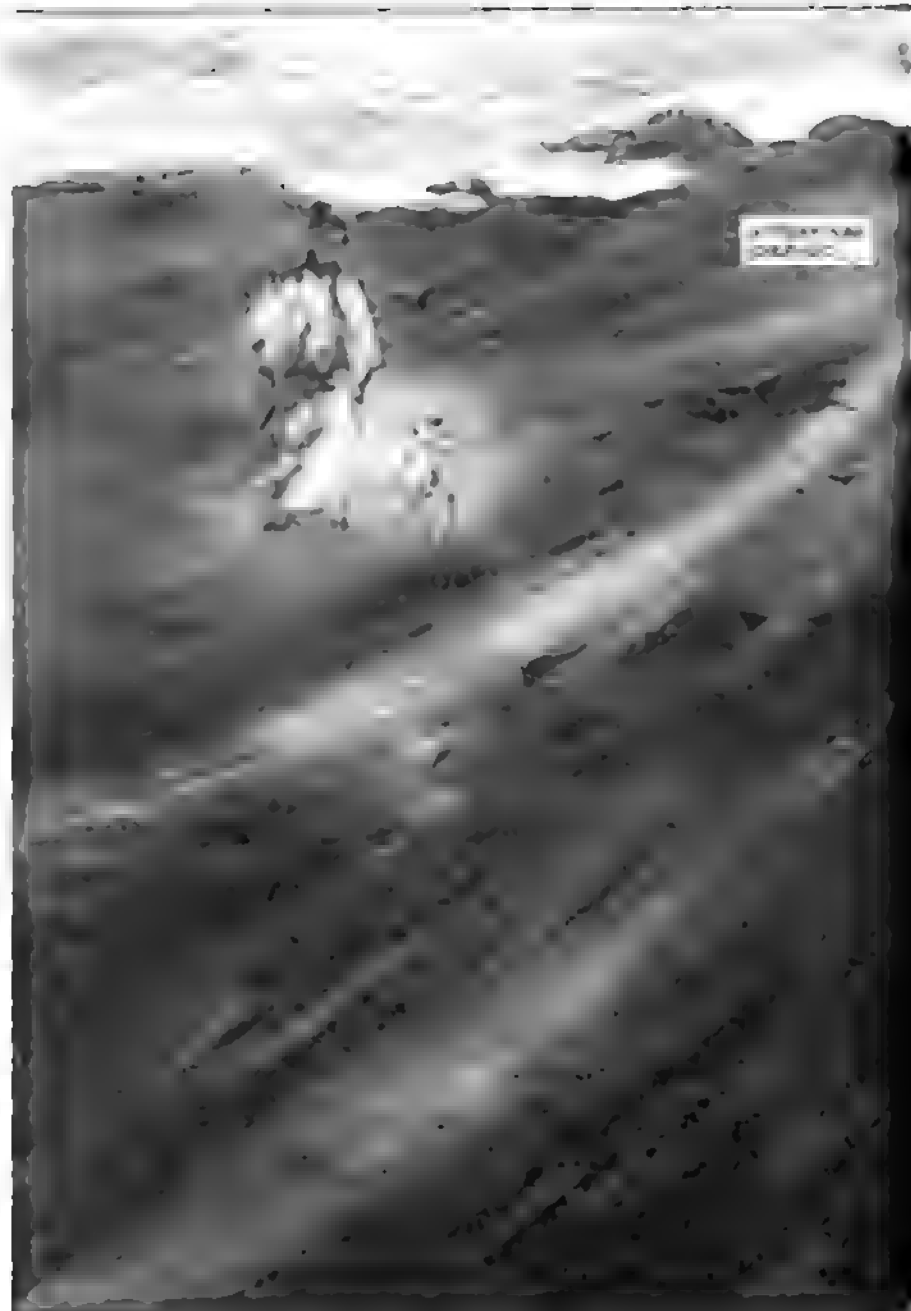
BUT THE RIVERS OF
THE EARTH OVERFLOWED
WITH HEAVEN'S TEARS
THE FORESTS OF
THE EARTH THRASHED
UNDER HEAVEN'S ANGER

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20315



EACH STAKING THEIR
VERY LIVES ON WHAT
WOULD COME









YET ONE THING
THEY KNEW—
THIS WAS
THEIR GOAL.



THIS WAS THE
MOMENT THAT
HAD BROUGHT
THEM THROUGH
NEFUJADÔ



IT WAS TIME *THEIR*
TIME. AND NOW THAT IT
PRESSED IN UPON THEM,
FATHER AND SON
EXCHANGED NO WORDS



TRIUMPHING AGAINST
ALL ODDS ENDURING
ALL SUFFERING,
THEY HAD COME
THROUGH HEIFUMADO
TO THE DIVIDE BETWEEN
LIFE AND DEATH.
THEY HAD NO NEED
OF WORDS

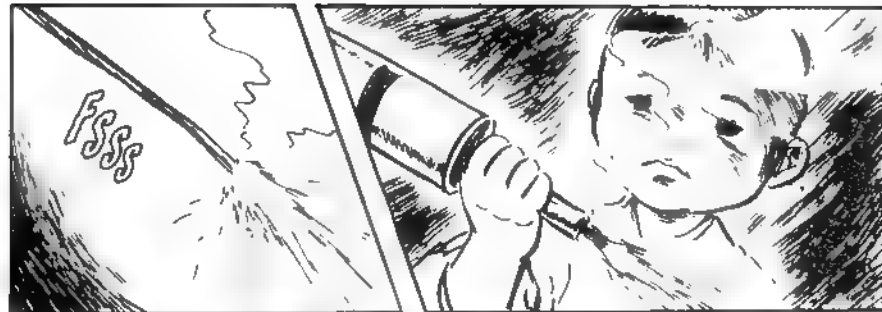
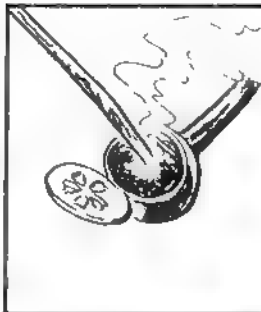


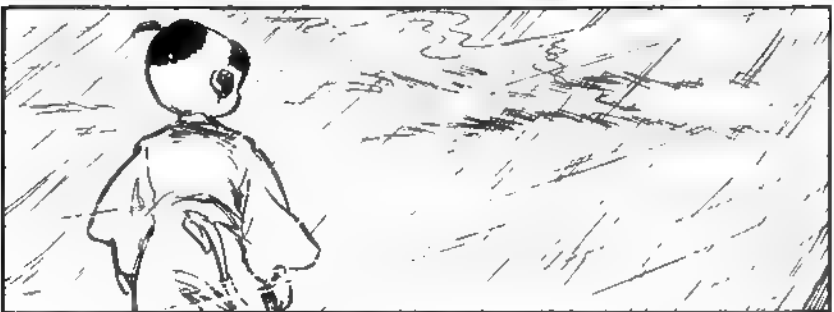
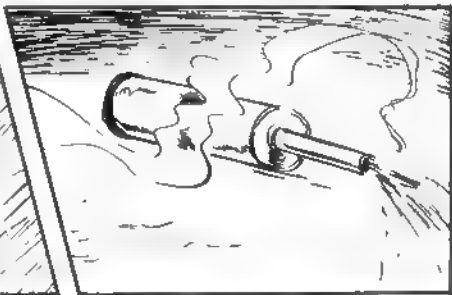
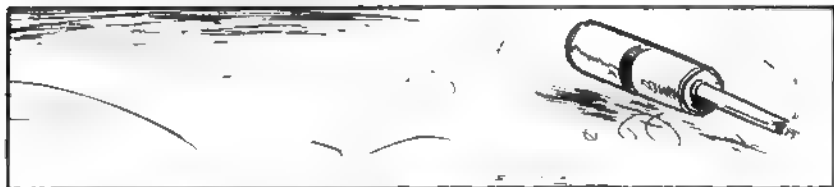
THEY NEEDED
ONLY EACH OTHER
HERE, AT THE
JUNCTION OF
THE SIX PATHS
AND THE FOUR LIVES.
LIVING TOGETHER
DYING TOGETHER.

SUCH WAS THEIR
LOVE, LOVE BETWEEN
FATHER AND SON,
SURPASSING ALL
OTHER BONDS OF
PARENT AND CHILD





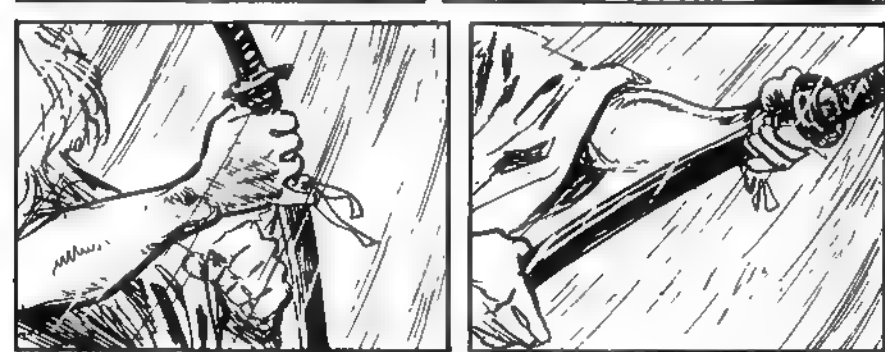














I COMMEND YOU
FOR COMING IN FUNERAL
CLOTHES. BUT HOW DID
YOU KNOW WE GATHERED
OUR LAST FORCES
FOR WAR?







HEH...
IT SEEMS IT
DEFEATED
YOU, EH?



SO YOU
RUSHED
HERE.

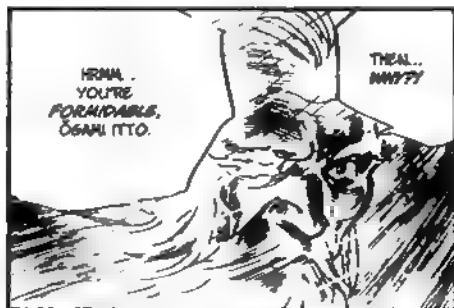


I PLACED
SILKWORMS ON
YOUR LETTER,
RETSUDŌ.



HRK!









I COULD HAVE TAUGHT
HIM THE WARRIOR ARTS FROM THE
DAY HE WAS BORN, AND HE STILL
WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE YET FATE
COMMANDS THAT HE FIGHT BESIDE ME!
IF HE'S ONLY GOING TO HINDER
OUR FINAL BATTLE, WHY SHOULD
HE HAVE LIVED?



HE CAN'T FIGHT
YOU AS A *BUSHI*.
SO I USED THE
ASSASSIN'S GOLD
OF MEIFUMADO
TO BUY HIM
TÔTEKIRAI!



FOR THIS
FINAL DAY!
COWARDLY
...?!



NOT
SHIDÔ
...?!

FORGIVE
ME.

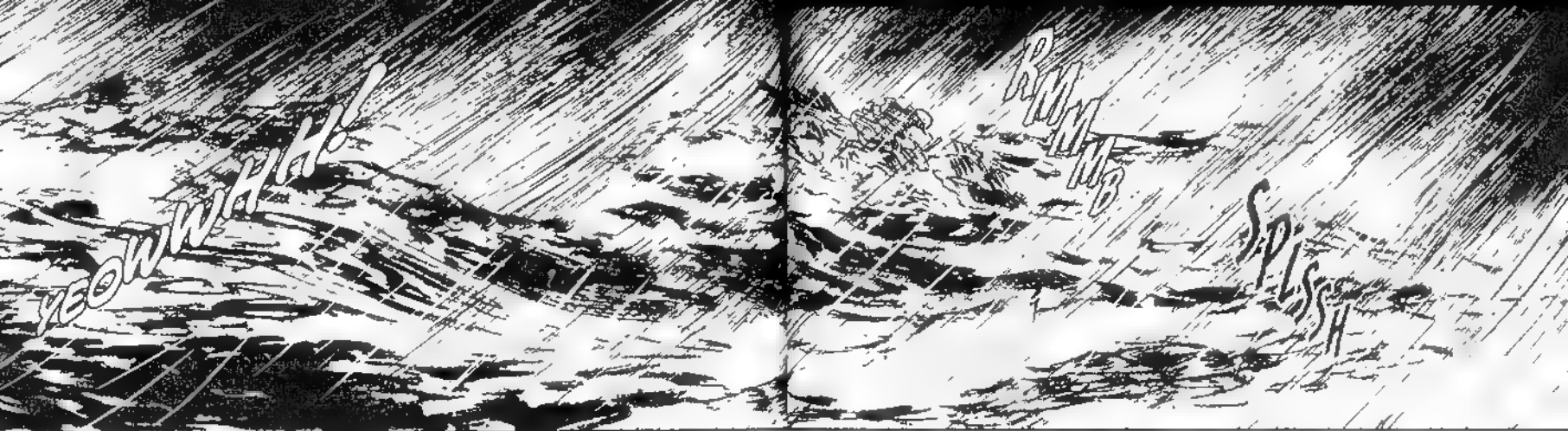
THEN LET
HIM USE THEM
BUT WE FIGHT
YOU FIRST!



AND YOU
YOU THREW
THAT TO
SHOW US.

SO WE'D KNOW
WHAT WEAPON WE
FACED. YOU'RE A
WORTHY FOE, *OSAMI*
DAIGORO!





OH
GOD!

AIEEE!



K-HELLLP!



JUST LET
ME LIVE! I DON'T
WANNA DIE!

SAVE
ME!

WAAAH!



I'M
GONNA
DIE!!



YAGYUP
LONE WOLF...?
I DON'T CARE!
RULE THE NATION!
FORGET IT!



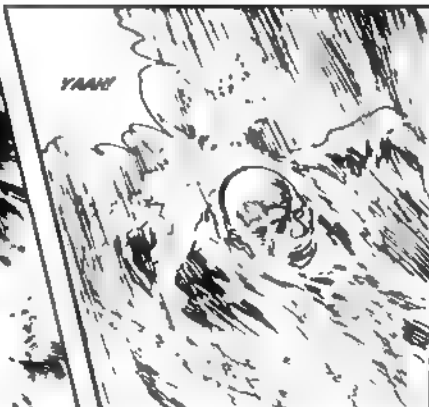
I I
ADM.T IT!!
I WAS
ARROGANT!!

I CAN'T
EVEN
SWIM!

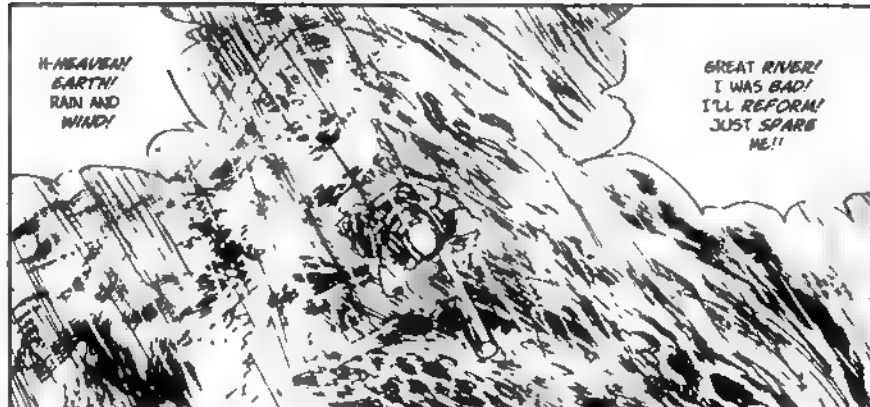
HEEEK!



K. HOW
COULD I BE
SO STUPID!



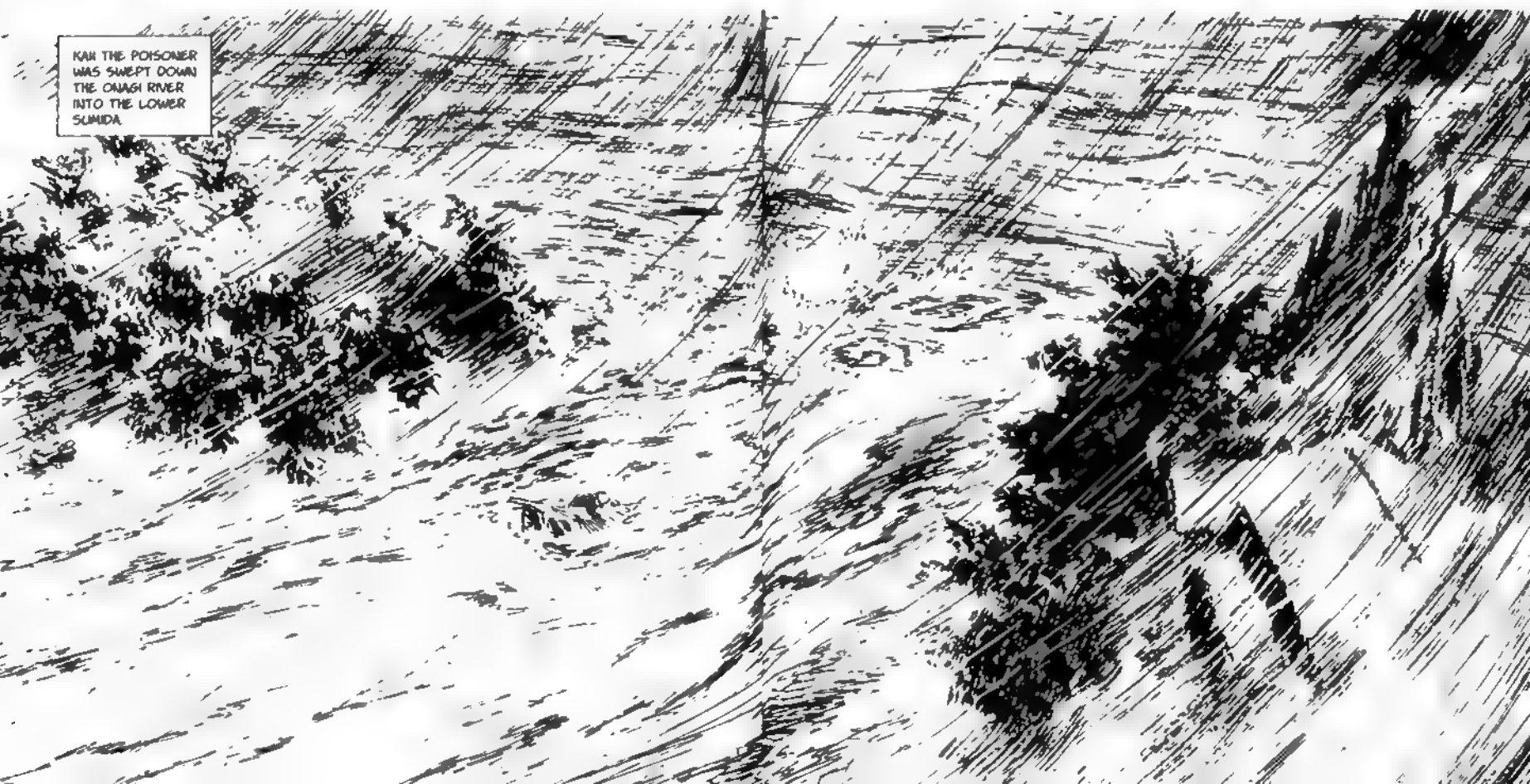
YAAH!

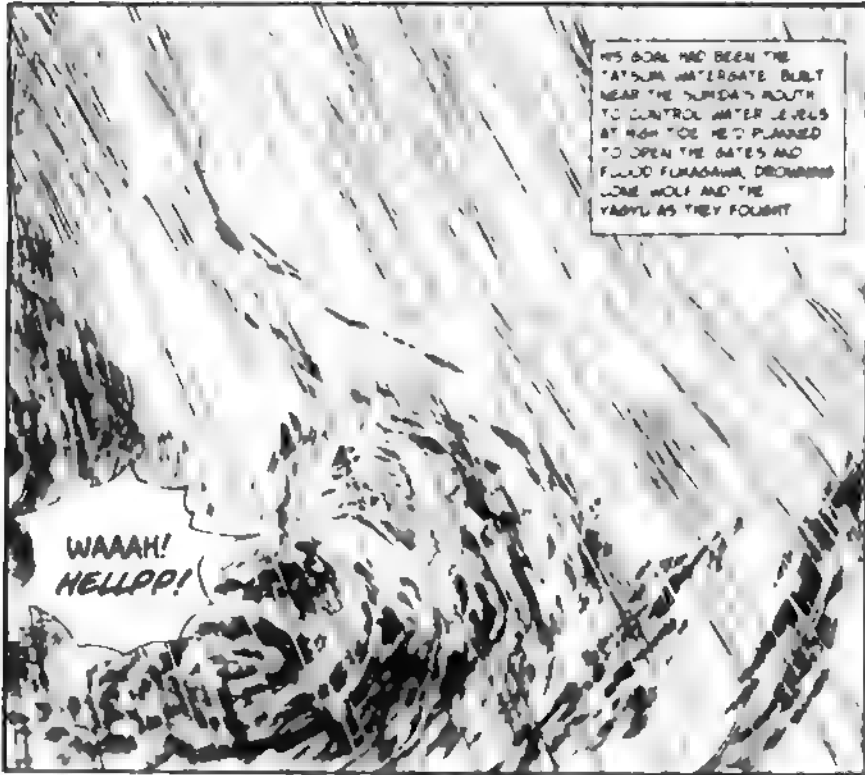


H-HEAVEN!
EARTH!
RAIN AND
WIND!

GREAT RIVER!
I WAS BAD!
I'LL REFORM!
JUST SPARE
ME!!

KAN THE POISONER
WAS SWEEPED DOWN
THE ONAGI RIVER
INTO THE LOWER
SUMIDA.





HIS GOAL HAD BEEN THE
TATSUMI WATERGATE BUILT
NEAR THE SUMIDA'S MOUTH
TO CONTROL WATER LEVELS
AT HIGH TIDE. HE'D PLANNED
TO OPEN THE GATES AND
FLOOD FUKUOKA, DEFEATING
JOURNIE WOLF AND THE
YAGU AS THEY FOUGHT

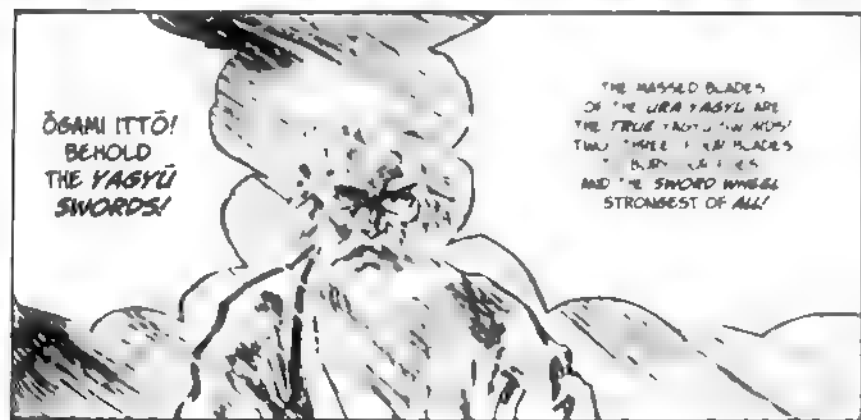
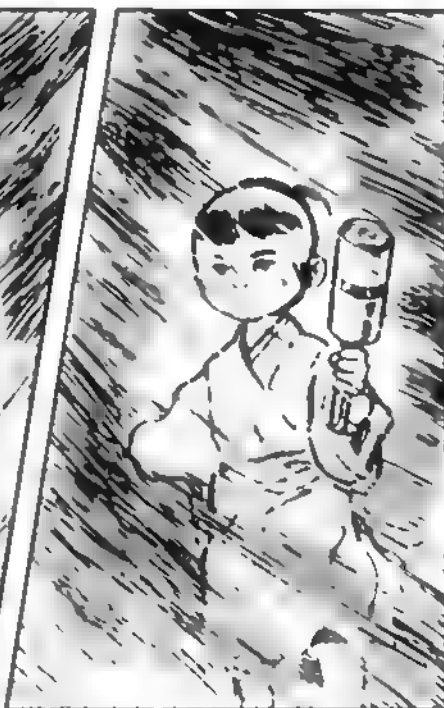
WAAAH!
HELPPP!



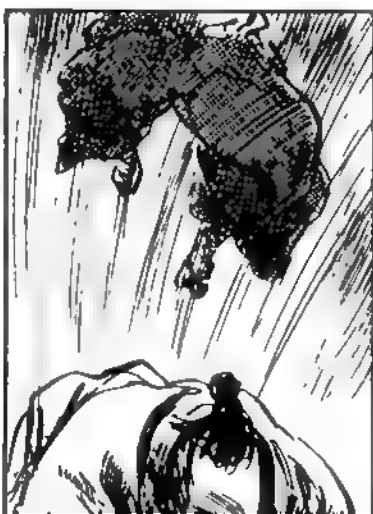
THAT'S WHY HE'D LEAPED INTO
THE RIVER OF HIS TOWN SHACK
DRIFTING BY. IN THE FLOOD
IT HAD BEEN THE BRAVEST
ACT OF HIS LIFE. BUT NOW

R
M
B
B
B
B









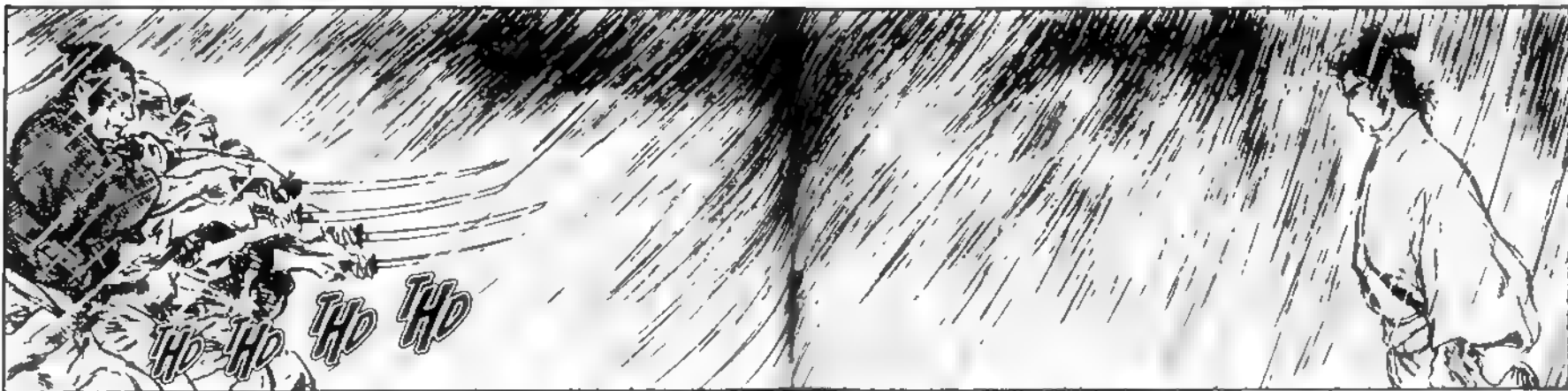






#MANGA PROJECT

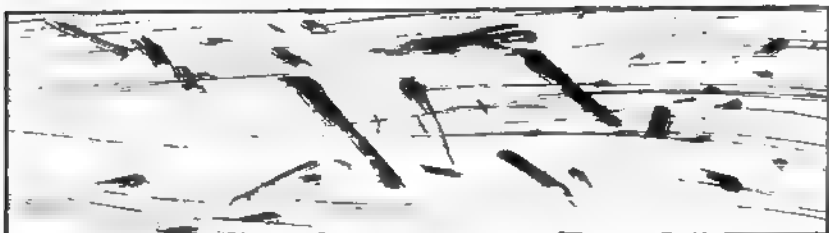


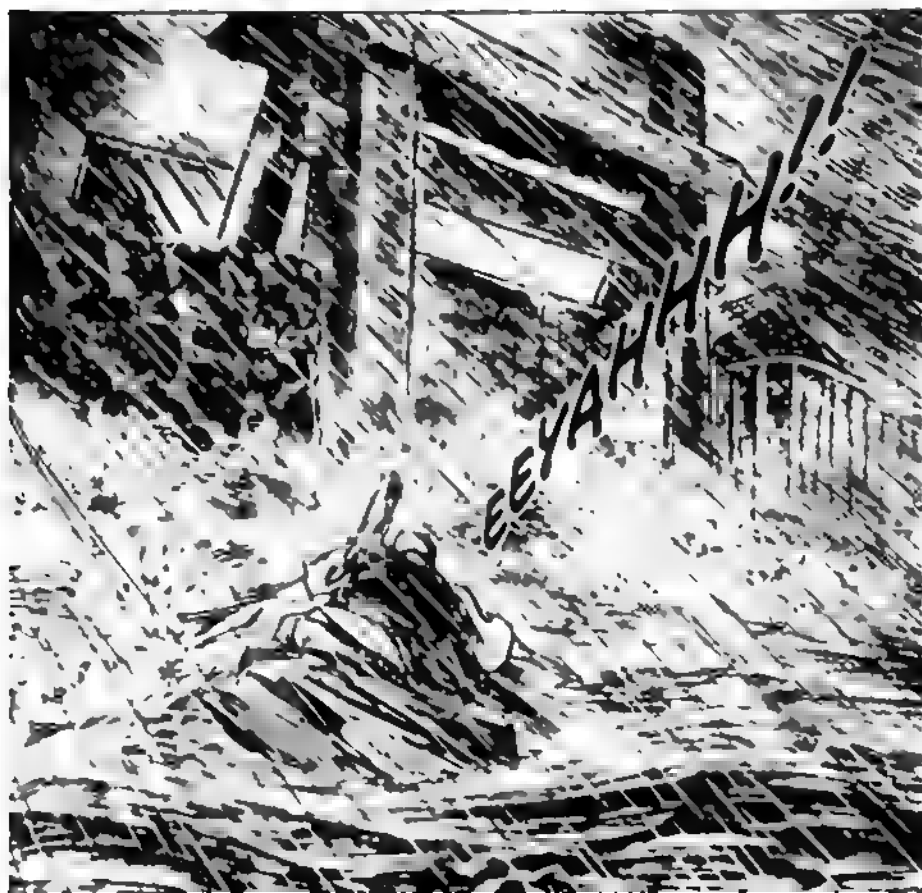






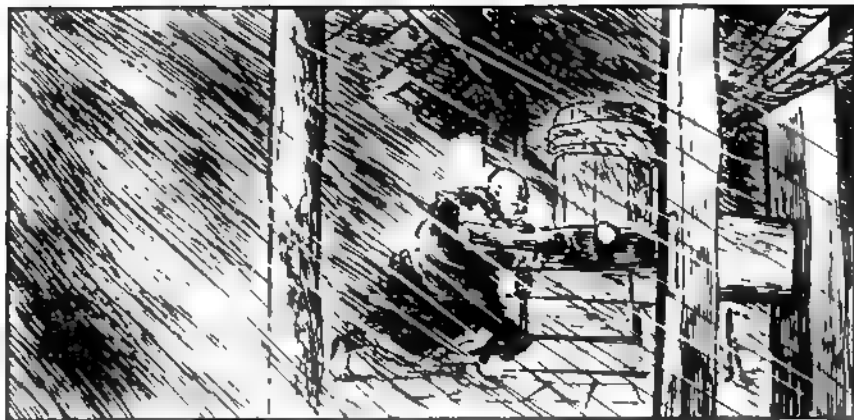










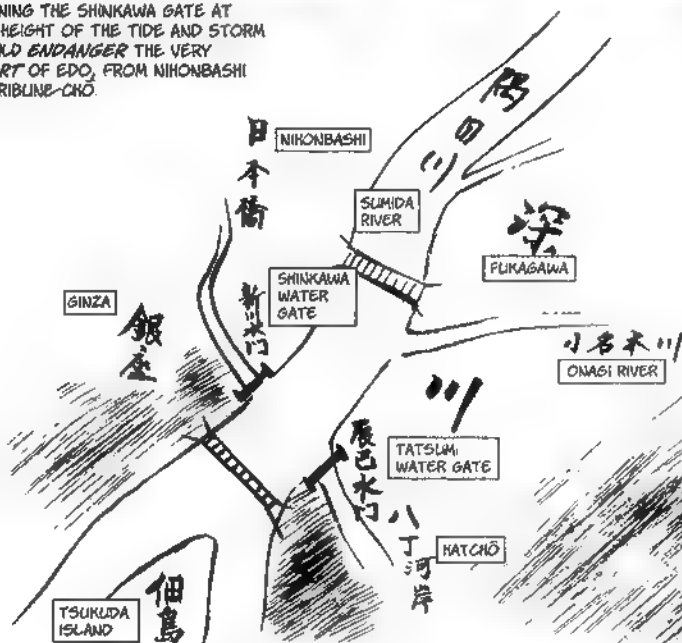


TOSSING AND
TURNING IN THE
CURRENT, KAI HAD
LOST ALL SENSE
OF DIRECTION. HE
DIDN'T KNOW HE
WAS NOW ON THE
OPPOSITE SHORE,
AT THE SHINKAWA
WATER GATE.



OPENING THE SHINKAWA GATE AT
THE HEIGHT OF THE TIDE AND STORM
WOULD ENDANGER THE VERY
HEART OF EDO, FROM NIHONBASHI
TO IRIIBUNE-CHO.

BUT THINKING
IT TO BE THE
TATSUMI GATE.



...KAI LABORED
TO TURN THE
MIGHTY CAPSTAN.



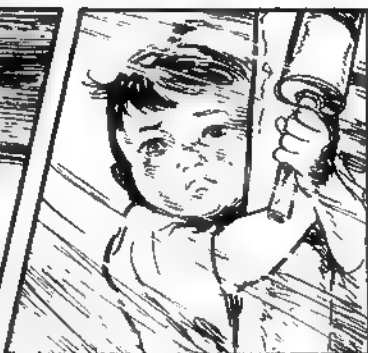
HEE
HEE HEE
HEE!!

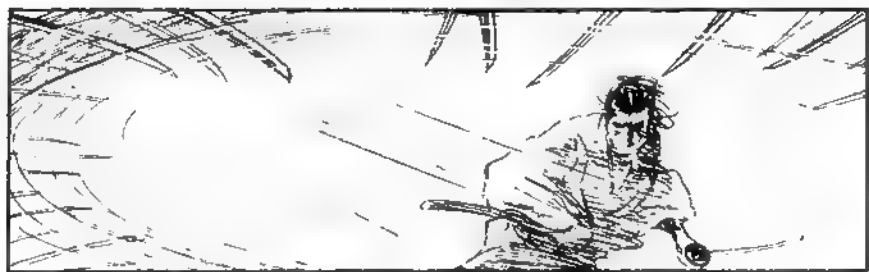


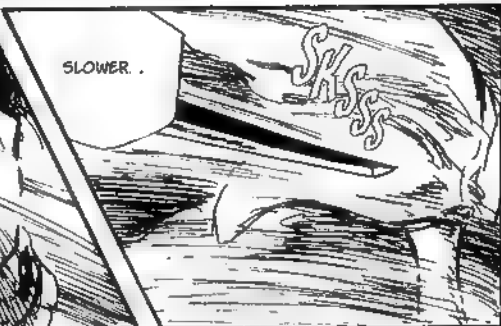
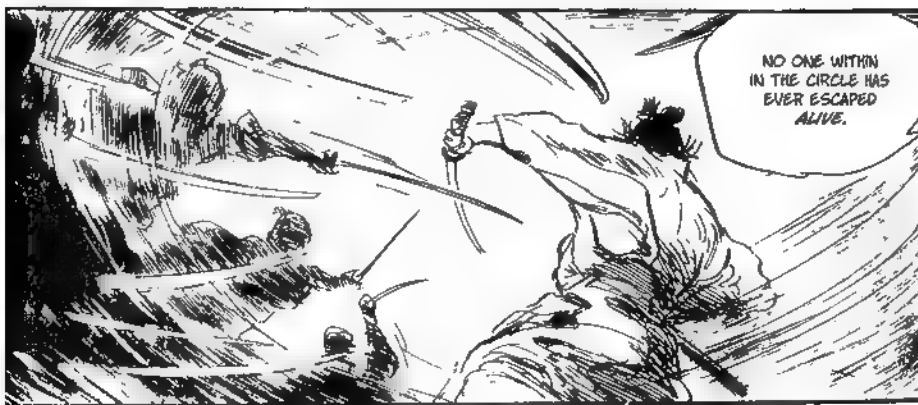
















TRY TO
BREAK IT,
AND THE WHEEL
EXPANDS.



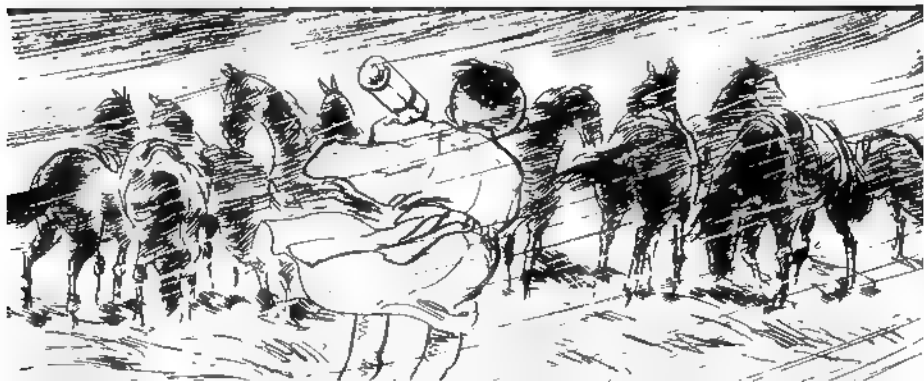
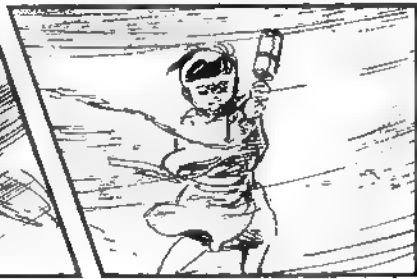
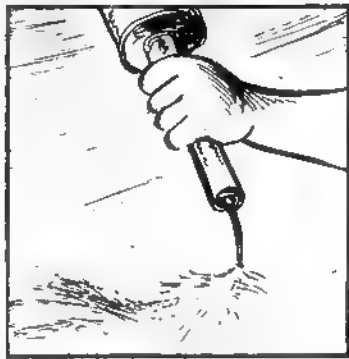
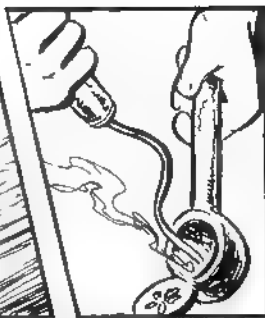
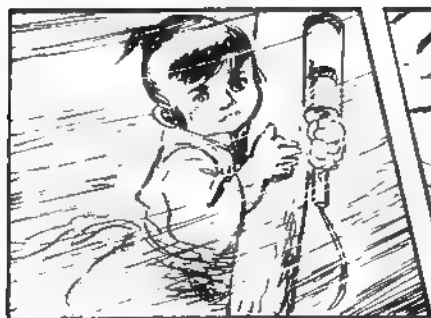
EXPANDS, AND
CONTRACTS.

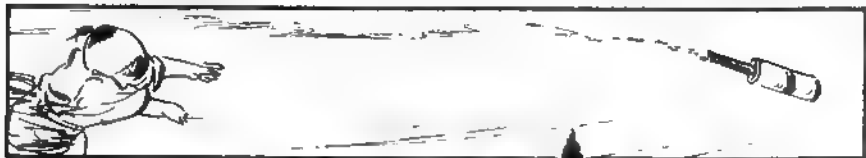
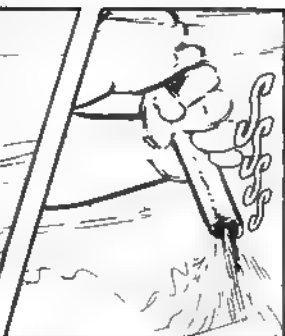
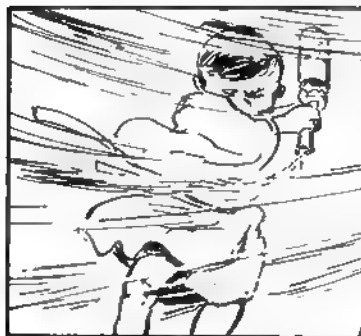


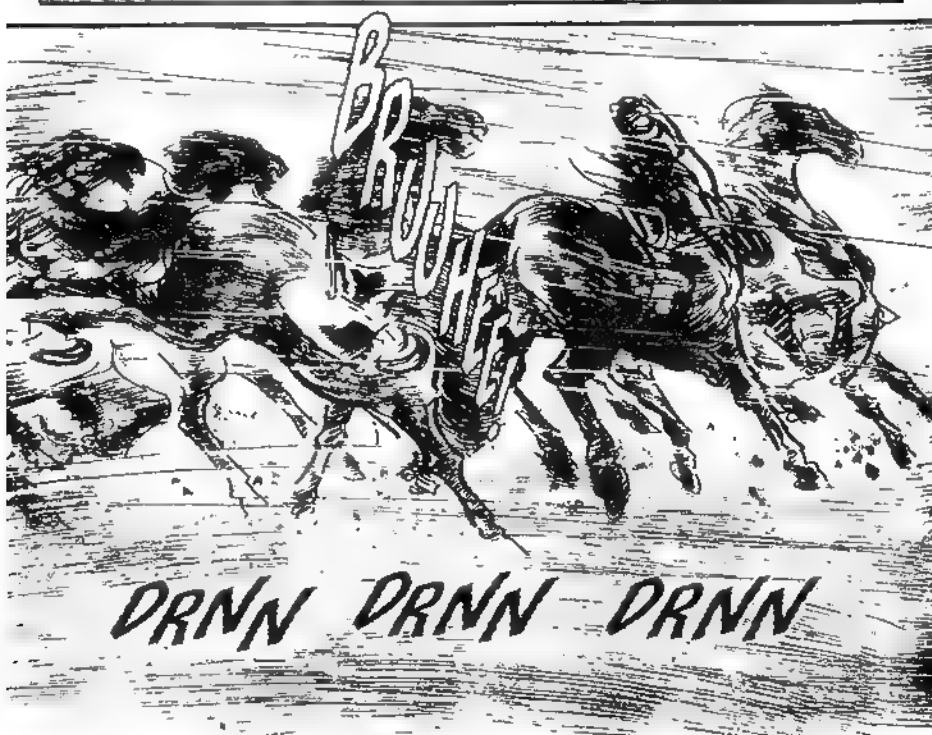
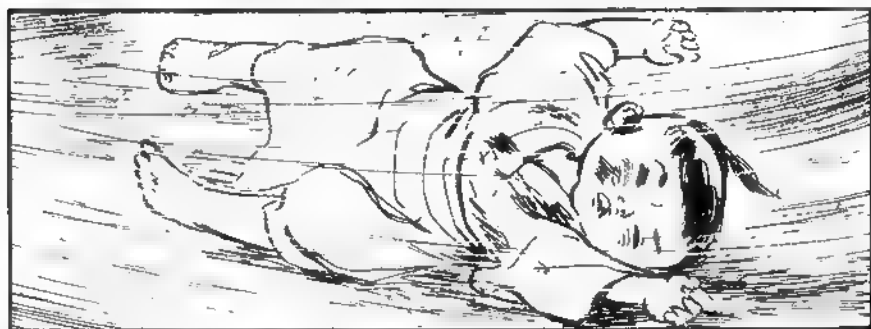
LIKE CUTTING
AT A SUMMER
BREEZE.

HEH HEH
HEH!

















BEHOLD
A FOOL

A FOOL
STRAINING TO OPEN
THE SHINKAWA GATE—
THE GUARDIAN OF EDO—
IN THE TEETH OF
A DELUGE.

SPSSSH

RAINING



SHOULD THE
GATE OPEN,
WATER WOULD
FLOOD THE
SHINKAWA IN
THE HEART
OF EDO



FROM TSUKIJI
TO KAMONBASHI,
ALL BENEATH
THE WAVES.

AND HE WOULD
BE SWALLOWED
AS WELL. NO
BOAT COULD
SURVIVE THAT
TORRENT



AND SHOULD THE GATE CRUMBLE
UNDER THE PRESS OF THE CURRENT,
ALL EDO ALONG THE LOWER SUMIDA
WOULD BE THREATENED—FOR IT WAS
HIGH TIDE AND THE STORM OF THE
CENTURY.



BEHOLD A FOOL,
WHO BEHELD
NOTHING.



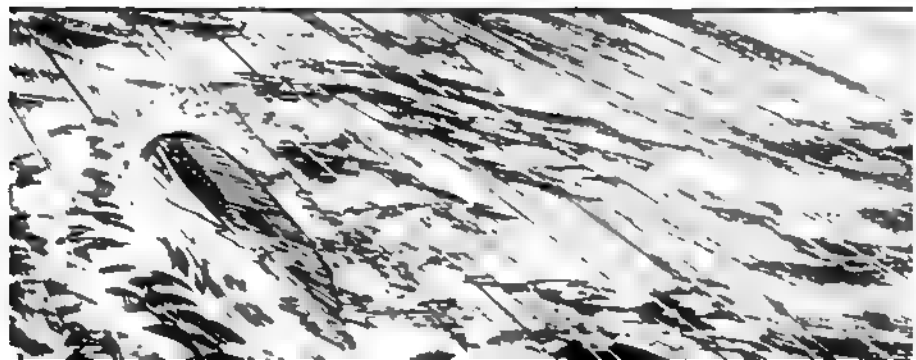
HEH
HEH HEH...
HEE HEE!

WHO DIDN'T
HAVE A CLUE.

AND SO...
MAELSTROM!













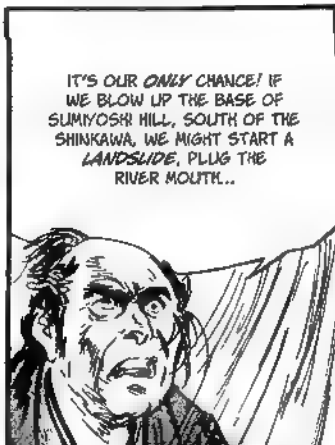








AND SOME
IDIOT OPENED
THE SHINKAWA GATE!
THE FUNA'S
FLOODING!





...AND KEEP
THE SUMIDA
FROM
FLOWING
IN!

HELP
US!



YAGYU-
SAMA! CEASE
THIS BATTLE AND
SAVE EDO! SAVE
THE PEOPLE!

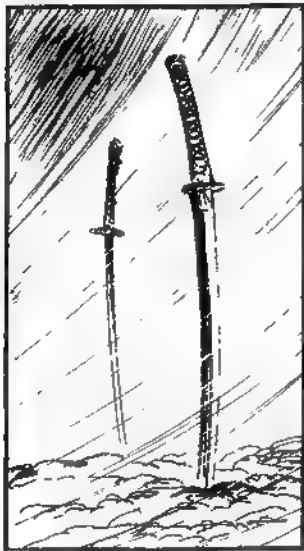
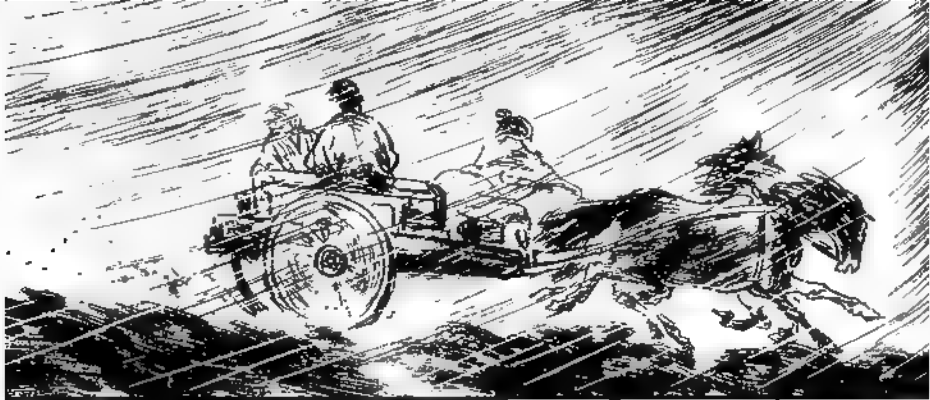


WHO ARE
YOU??

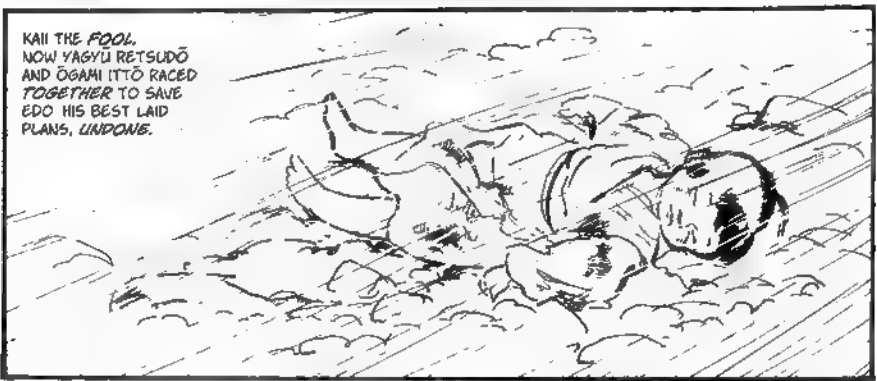


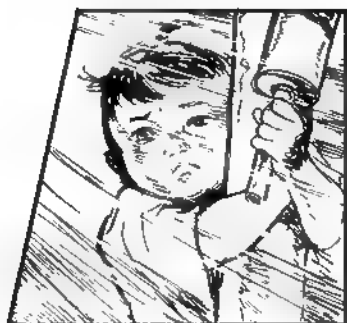
NAGASAKIYA,
TRADER AND
TOTEKIRAI
DEALER.





KAI THE FOOL.
NOW YAGYU RETSUDŌ
AND ŌGAMI ITTŌ RACED
TOGETHER TO SAVE
EDO HIS BEST LAID
PLANS, UNDONE.





#MANGA PROJECT



*the hundred and
eleventh*

Fire on the River of Blood

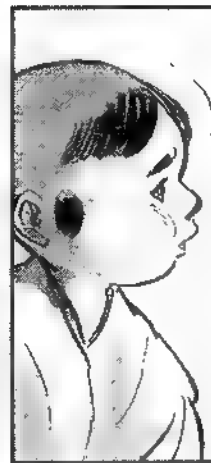
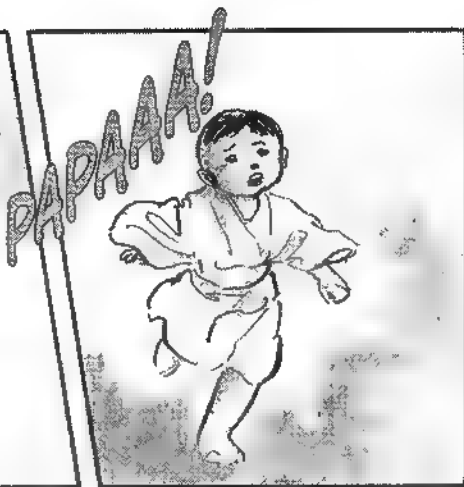




PAPAAA!

PAPAAA!





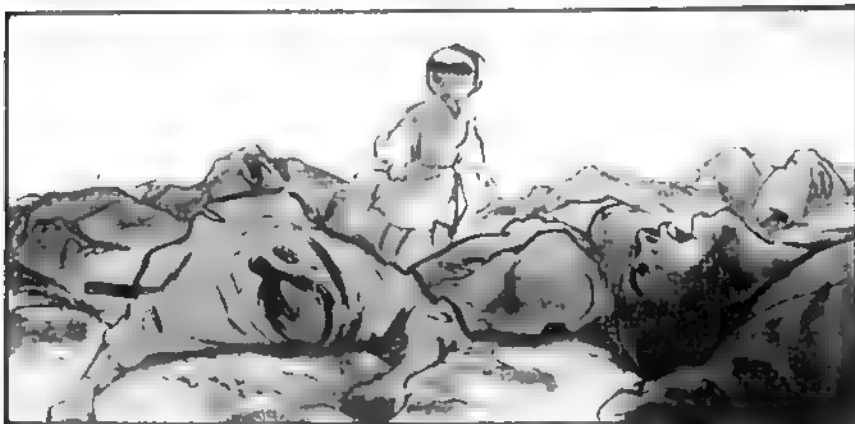


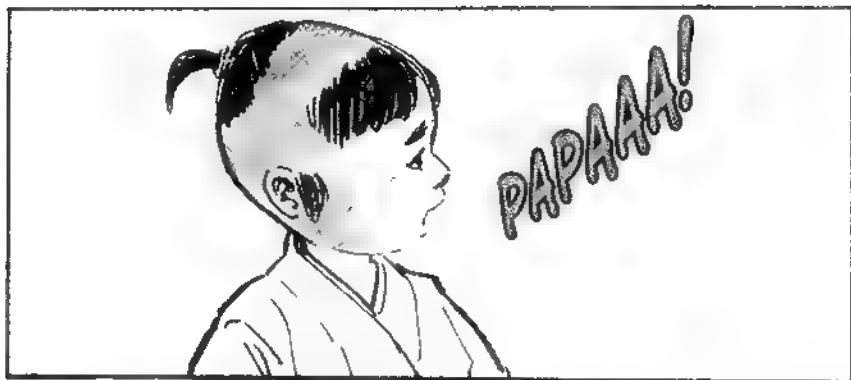


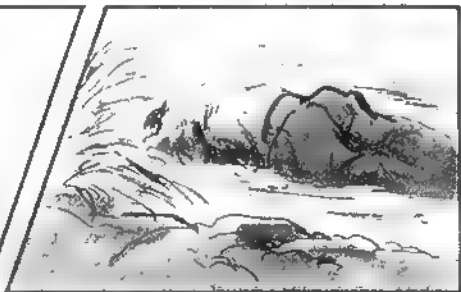




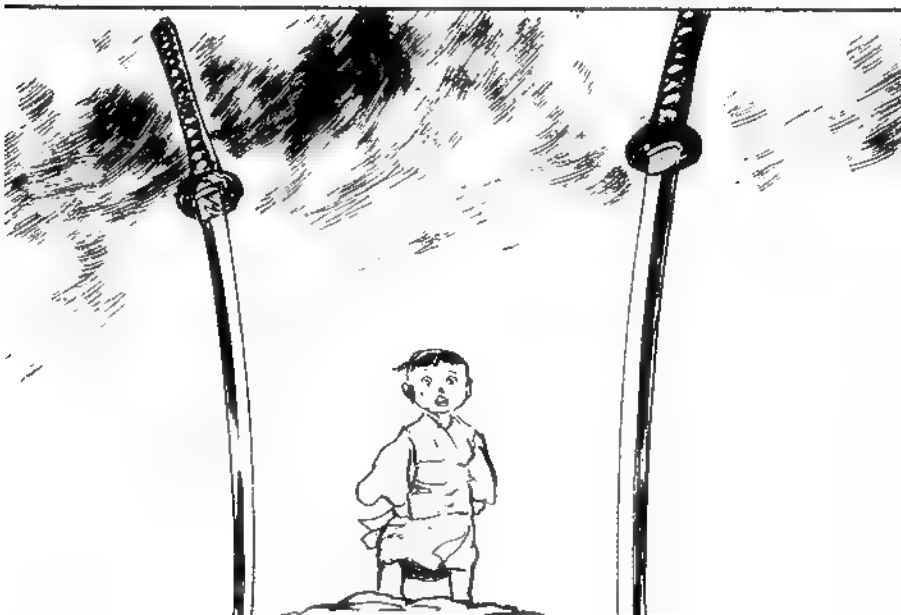
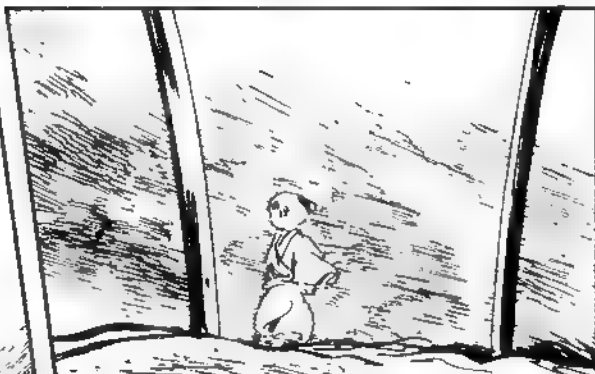












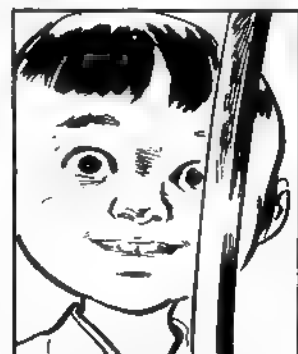


IT WAS
HIS FATHER'S
SWORD.

NO FATHER, BUT
ONLY HIS SWORD,
THRUST INTO THE
FIELD OF BATTLE.



IT DIDN'T TAKE
HIM LONG TO
GUESS THAT
THE OTHER
WAS YAGYU
RETSUDÔ'S.



THERE WAS NO
BLOOD-SHEAR
ON THAT BLADE.

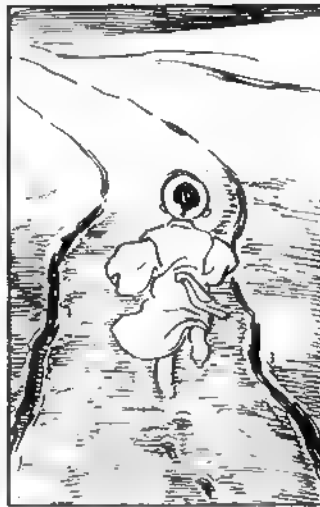


PROOF THAT HIS
FATHER STILL
LIVED.





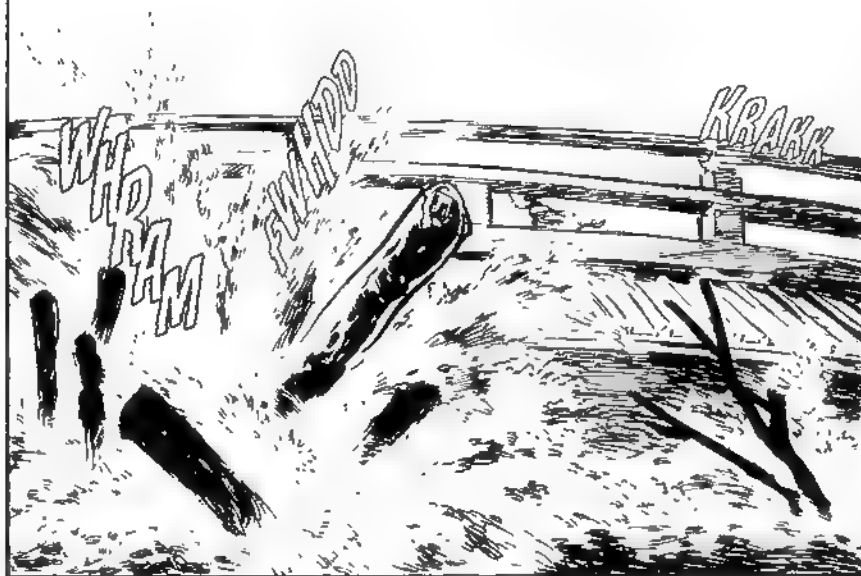
THE TÔTEKIRAI,
TOO, WERE GONE
AND THEN

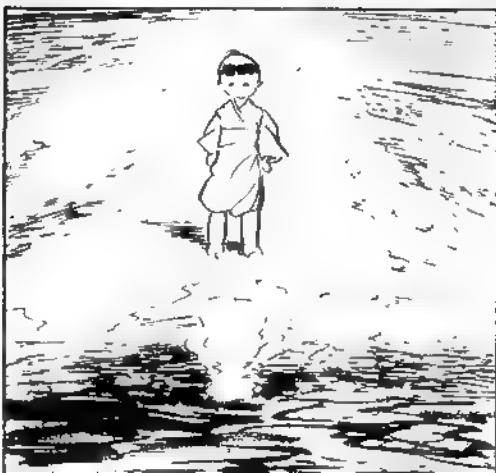




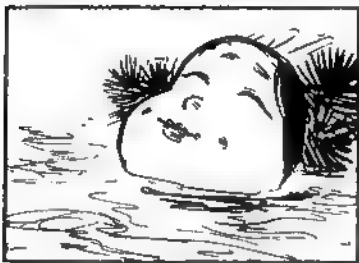


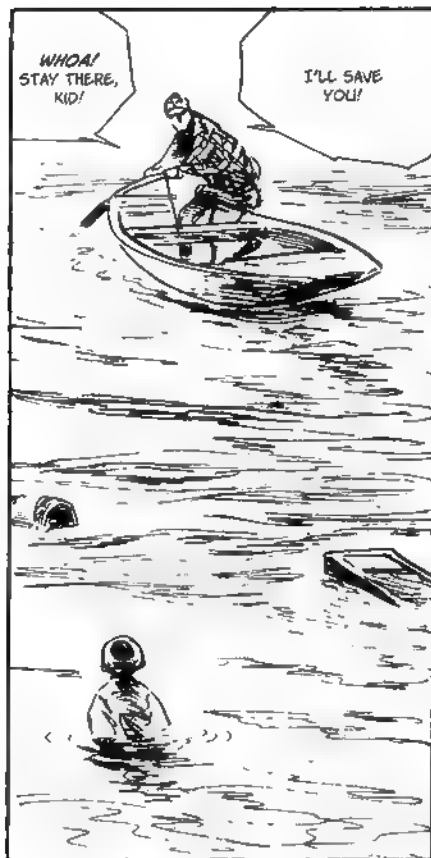
THE SUMIDA HAD BEEN UNLEASHED ON THE EDO FLINAI
AT THE HEIGHT OF THE TIDE, EVEN AS SEVEN DAYS OF
RAIN SWELLED THE TRIBUTARIES OF THE OKAWA, SENDING
IT HIGH ABOVE FLOOD LEVEL. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS
LONG HISTORY, EDO WAS UNDER WATER..





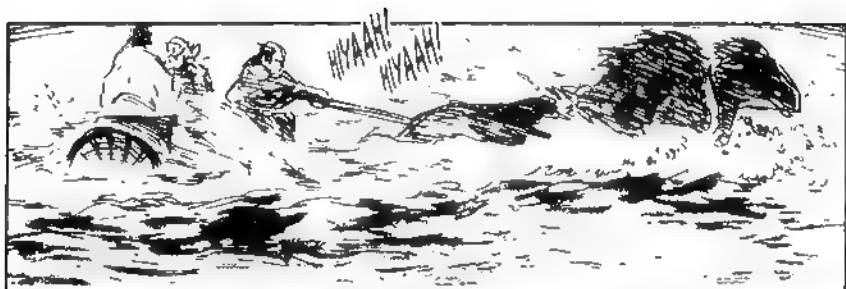






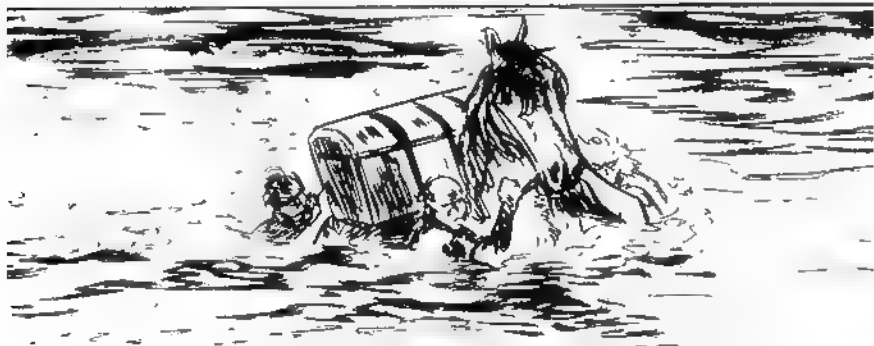
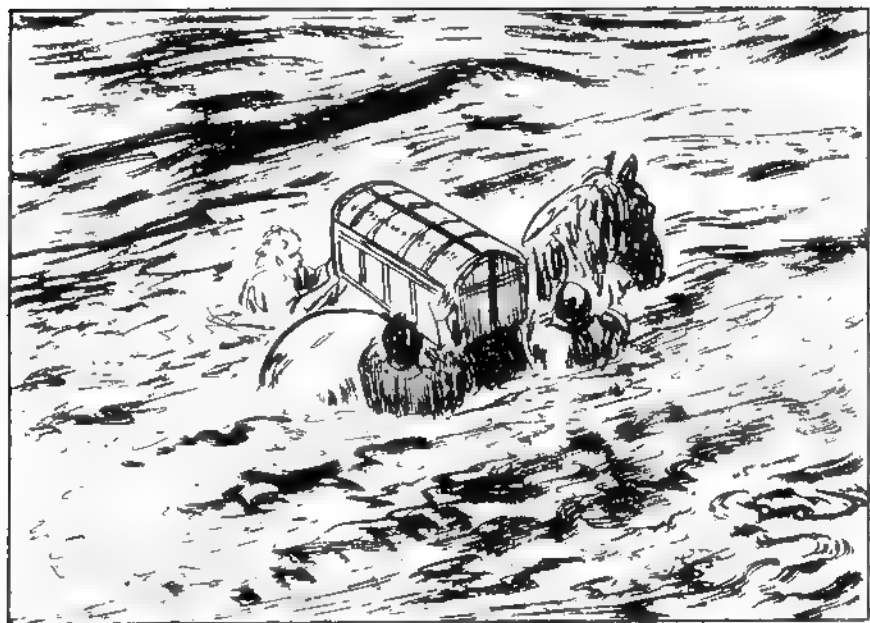


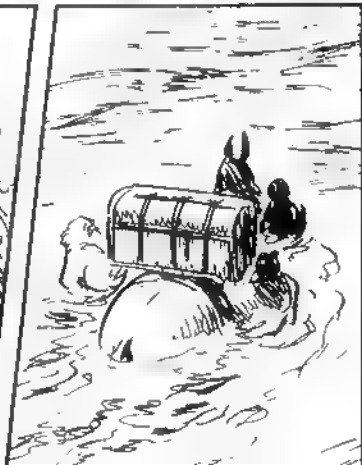
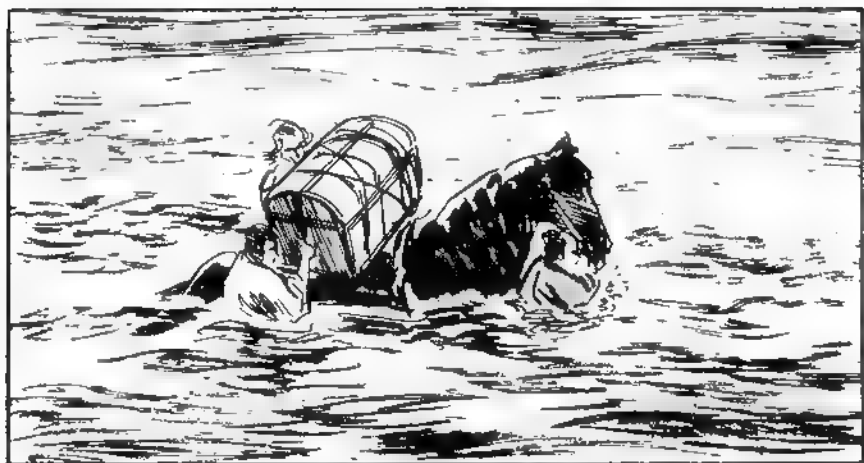


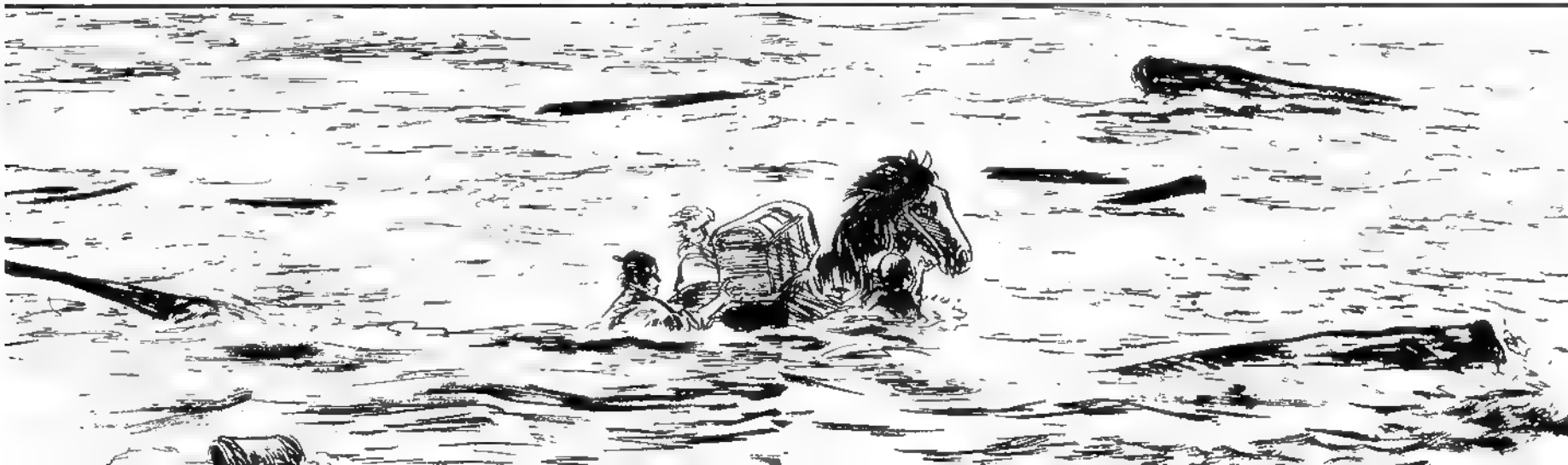






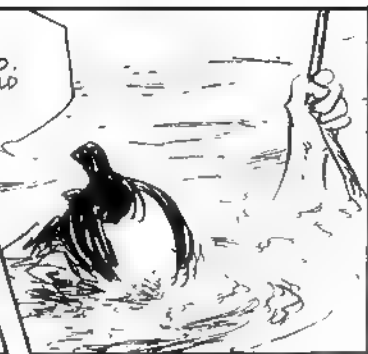


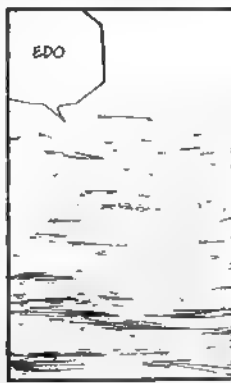
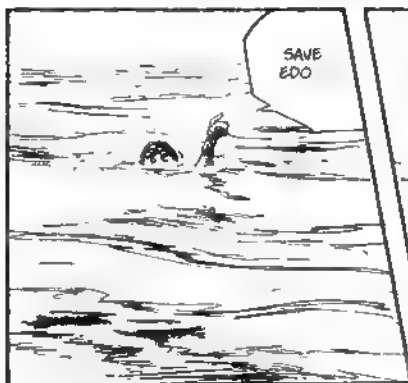
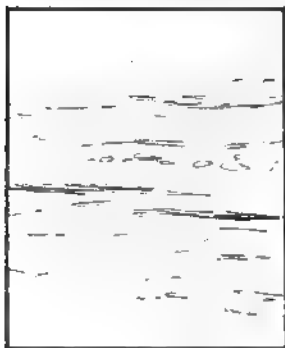
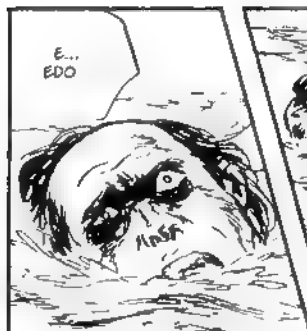










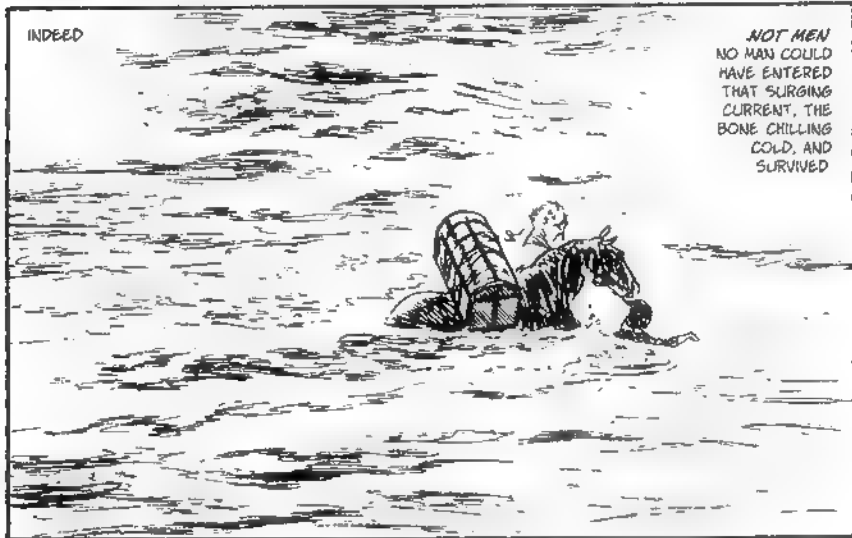






INDEED

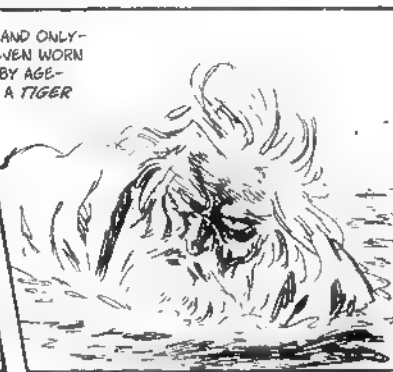
NOT MEN
NO MAN COULD
HAVE ENTERED
THAT SURGING
CURRENT, THE
BONE CHILLING
COLD, AND
SURVIVED

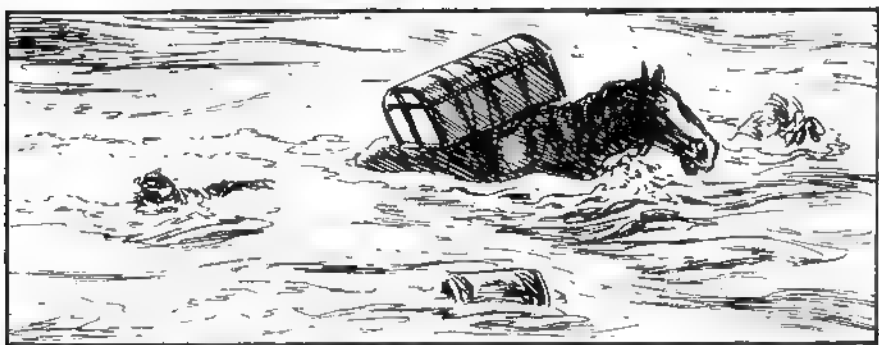
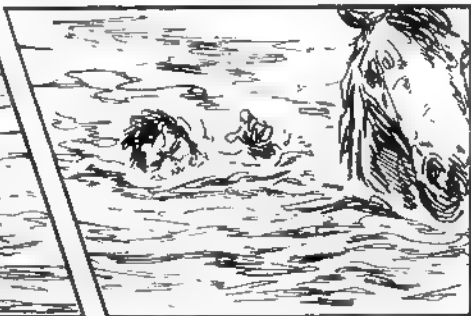


ONLY A
WOLF

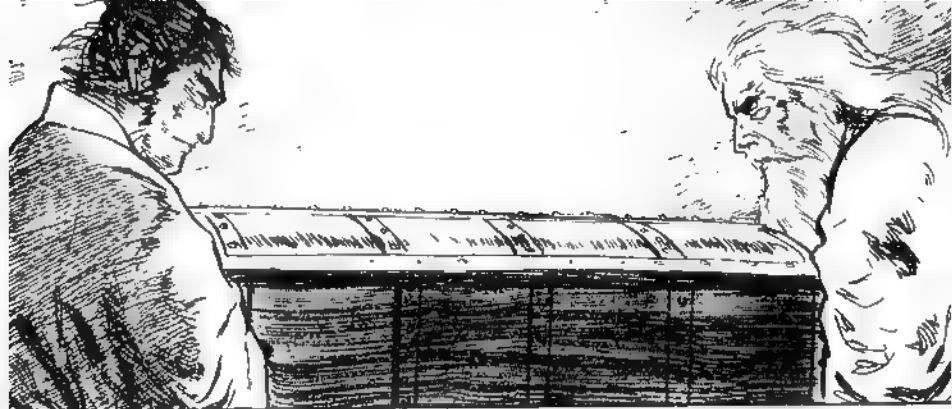


AND ONLY-
EVEN WORN
BY AGE-
A TIGER

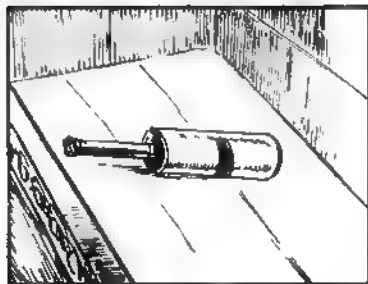


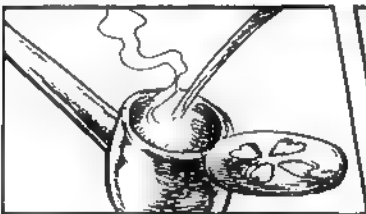
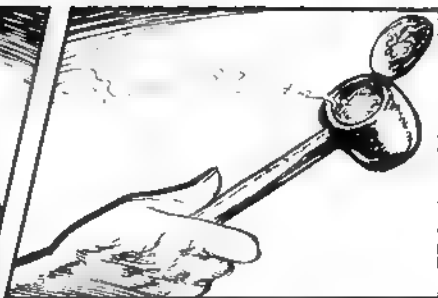




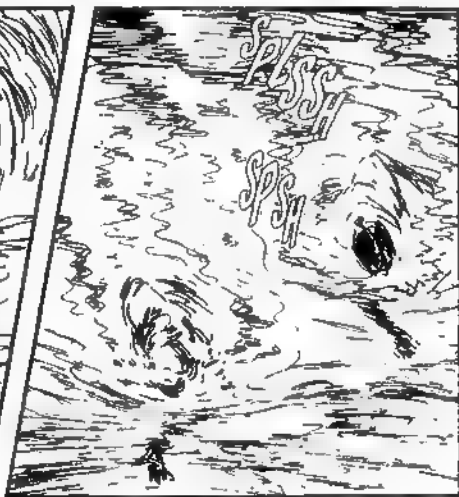


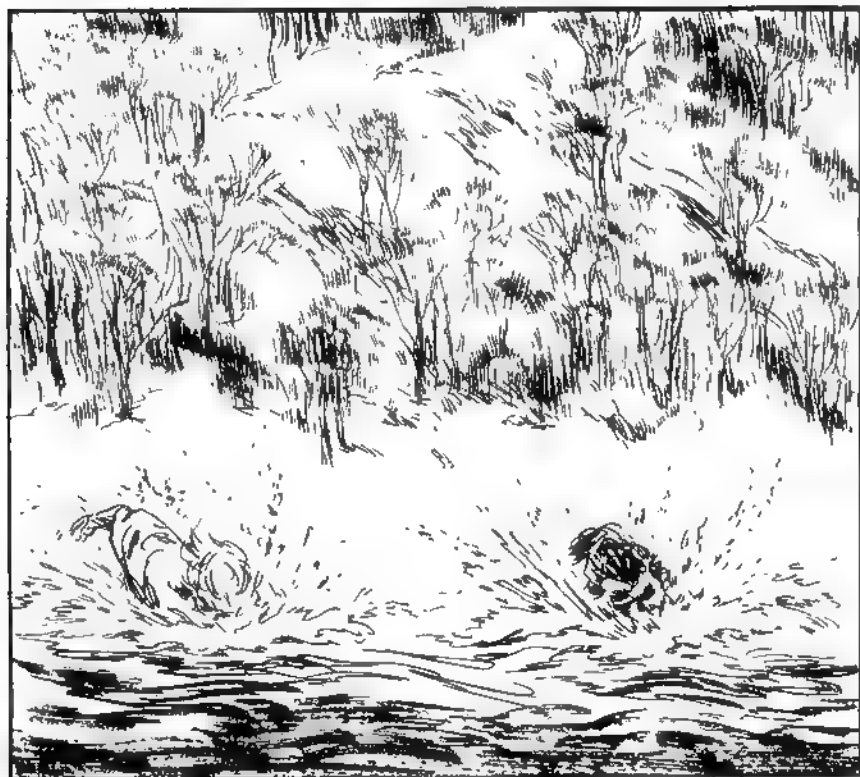








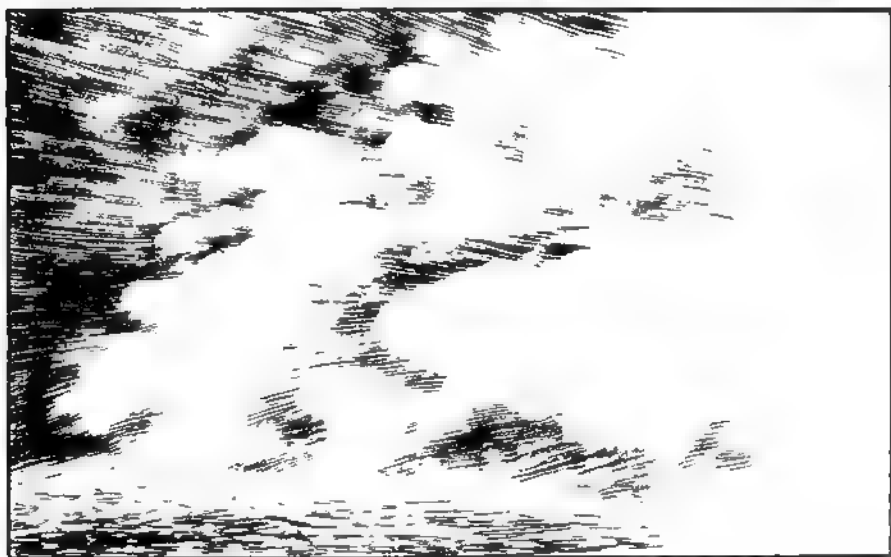






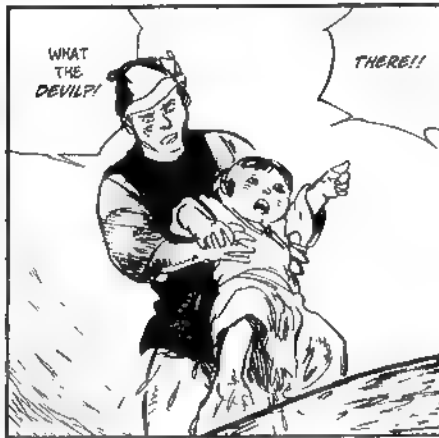
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子連水狼

GLOSSARY

buke

Samurai families.

bushi

A samurai. A member of the warrior class.

bushidō

The way of the warrior. Also known as *shidō*.

daimyō

A feudal lord.

daisuimon

One of the main water gates used to regulate tidal fluxes in Edo's rivers.

dōtanuki

A battle sword. Literally, "sword that cuts through torsos."

Edo

Edo was a castle town, that rose up around the moats and ramparts of Edo castle, the stronghold of the Tokugawa clan. The central core of the city, administered by the *machi-bugyō* city commissioner, who reported directly to the shōgun's senior councilors, and was demarcated on official maps by a black line, the *kurobiki*, and was called the *go-funai*.

enishi

A fateful, chance connection between two people.

funai

The central core of Edo (see *Edo*).

gozabune

A government official's ship.

honorifics

Japan is a class and status society, and proper forms of address are critical. Common markers of respect are the prefixes *o* and *go*, and a wide range of suffixes. Some of the suffixes you will encounter in *Lone Wolf and Cub*:

chan – for children, young women, and close friends

dono – archaic; used for higher-ranked or highly respected figures

san – the most common, used among equals or near-equals

sama – used for superiors

sensei – used for teachers, masters, respected entertainers, and politicians.

ki

Energy. The fundamental mind/body energy of Eastern medicine.

kuchiyaku

Kuchiyaku were the tasters for the

shōgun family. They were called *kuchiyaku*, or “official mouths,” because they checked for poison with their own tongues.

machi-bugyō

The Edo city commissioner, combining the post of mayor and chief of police. A post held in monthly rotation by two senior Tokugawa vassals, in charge of administration, maintaining the peace, and enforcing the law in Edo. Their rule extended only to commoners; samurai in Edo were controlled by their own *daimyō* and his officers. The *machi-bugyō* had an administrative staff and a small force of armed policemen at his disposal.

measurements

bu – approximately 3 millimeters.

sun – approximately 3 centimeters.

shaku – ten *sun*, approximately 30 centimeters.

ri – approximately 4 kilometers (2.5 miles).

meifumadō

The Buddhist Hell. The way of demons and damnation.

ryū

Often translated as “school.” The many variations of swordsmanship and other martial arts were passed down from generation to generation to the offspring of the originator of the technique or set of techniques, and to any *deishi* students that sought to learn from the master. The largest schools had

their own *dōjō* training centers and scores of students. An effective swordsman had to study the different techniques of the various schools to know how to block them in combat. Many *ryū* also had a set of special, secret techniques that were only taught to school initiates.

the Shuu Jing

One of the Five Classics of early Chinese writing. Pronounced *shōkyō* in Japanese. The Classic of Documents, The Book of History.

tōtekirai

Hand-thrown explosives. A primitive hand grenade.



#MANGA PROJECT

